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# Daily Report

# East Asia

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# Daily Report
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## Cairns Group Ministers Tour Europe on GATT Talks

### Discuss Farm Subsidies, Quotas

*BK2210104193 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0630 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[From the "International Report" Program]

[Text] The Australian trade minister, Senator Peter Cook, is returning to Australia after a tour of European capitals to urge European Community governments to come to the party in the GATT talks. Senator Cook led a delegation from the Cairn's group of agriculture exporting countries to Paris, Brussels, Bonn, and Geneva. But a member of the group, the deputy prime minister of Thailand, has admitted to a sense of apprehension over the impasse on farm subsidies and export quotas. Our Europe correspondent, Majella Anning, reports.

[Begin recording] [Anning] With less than two months to go before the deadline for successful resolution of the GATT talks on freeing up world trade, the Cairn's group has just completed a diplomatic offensive in the major capitals of Europe. But while they've repeated their message that a GATT deal has to be fair to all and that the 15 December deadline is a real one, they seem to have been receiving the same old responses. The Argentinian agriculture minister, Felipe Sola, who accompanied Senator Cook around Europe, admitted that in France the minister for agriculture boasted that French farming was the most efficient in Europe and it was really Germany that was the problem. When he went to Bonn, the Germans told him German agriculture was the most efficient in Europe and the French were the ones holding things up. In Paris, Senator Cook used unequivocal language saying French opposition to cuts in farm subsidies and export quotas as set out in the so-called Blair House Accord was [word indistinct] and contradictory.

[Cook] It is not therefore language that is meant as a hostile attack upon France; it is language that is meant to point out that if in the case of France you've got an economy in which four percent of it is agriculture, a work force in which six percent of the work force derive their income from agriculture, and that's a very small child wagging the big $25 billion dog of advantage to France as it is silly and contradictory for France to allow itself to be the situation in which a tiny child wags a big, big dog like that. [sentence as heard]

[Anning] The deputy prime minister of Thailand, Dr. Supachai Phanitchaphak, said he'd tried to send the message to European governments that a failure in the GATT talks would hit less developed countries much harder than the bigger industrialized nations.

[Phanitchaphak] Major countries of the world seem to be preoccupied with their own domestic problems, with their own promises to their own constituents and seemingly they would place their parochial interests above that of the global interests. I see that the Uruguay Round would end having the major countries of the world thrash out the best deal on manufacturing sector, on services sector among themselves by giving away as little as possible on the agricultural side. The signs are on the wall. [end recording]

### Thai Deputy Prime Minister Cited

*BK2310040093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Oct 93 p 22*

[Text] Thai Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak says his meetings with European leaders have given him less confidence that a world trade deal can be sold to the Thai public.

Dr Suphachai was speaking on Thursday in Brussels at the end of a trip that had also taken him to Paris and Bonn. He was part of a three-member team representing the Cairns Group of 14 agricultural-exporting nations seeking an agricultural trade liberalisation agreement in the Uruguay Round of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) talks.

With him were Australian Trade Minister Peter Cook, who is chairman of the Cairns Group, and Argentine Agriculture Secretary Felipe Sola. In Brussels, they met EC foreign economic relations commissioner Leon Brittan and Belgian foreign minister Willy Claes.

The three Cairns Group leaders were particularly disheartened by meetings on Wednesday with German ministers who reportedly stressed the need to maintain unity within the European Community instead of trying to soften France's opposition to key elements of proposed farm-trade liberalisation.

"I'm feeling less and less reason to explain to my own people about the validity of the Round for us," Dr Suphachai told a news conference in Brussels.

The more the EC and United States argued among themselves the less benefit it would have to other parts of the world, he said, referring to the transatlantic dispute over agriculture.

With less than two months before the December 15 deadline for agreement to be reached in the seven-year-old Uruguay Round, one of the Cairns Group's objectives is to make clear that agriculture is not only a concern of the Europeans and Americans.

The Cairns Group accounts for one third of the world's farm exports and favours free trade in agricultural goods. It comprises Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Fiji, Hungary, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Thailand and Uruguay. The three Cairns Group leaders urged the European Community and the United States to stop "playing games" which they said were threatening the round.

Mr Cook and Dr Suphachai said the Cairns Group cannot be counted on to automatically accept an eleventh-hour farm deal hammered out between the US and the EC.

"Fiddling with Blair House will not provide a situation in which the Uruguay Round will succeed," Mr Cook said. The Blair House accord would cut the volume of subsidised EC farm exports by 21 percent. France says it will reject a broader GATT deal unless the impact of Blair House on French farmers is softened, but Washington has refused to reopen negotiations.

Mr Cook criticised France for allowing the interests of its farmers to overshadow those of its overall trade, saying Paris would be one of the biggest winners from a successful completion of the Uruguay Round.

"They should not allow a very small tail to wag a very big dog," he said. "It is up to the majors to provide momentum to ensure a successful outcome. The final decision on the acceptability of the Blair House proposals could only be taken in Geneva, when the overall market-access package has been assembled," Mr Cook said.

The Uruguay Round's 116 participants have agreed on a November 15 deadline for concluding a market-access package dealing with tariffs and non-tariff barriers on industrial as well as agricultural products. This would help nudge the round toward a conclusion on all its 15 subjects by December 15, but participants say the market-access negotiations are also bogged down.

## Accord Reached at Export Controls Seminar

*OW2610133693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1114 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Japan and other nations in Asia, the United States and Australia agreed Tuesday [26 October] on the importance of expanding international cooperation on export controls for international security, Foreign Ministry officials said Tuesday.

The accord was reached at a two-day Asian seminar on export controls for international security, attended by high-level officials in charge of export controls from the six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), South Korea and Hong Kong, the officials said.

The seminar was sponsored by the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of International Trade and Industry with the cooperation of the U.S. and Australia. The seminar aims at forging a common understanding on the importance of establishing an effective export control system in the Asian region. ASEAN groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The Japanese delegation told the seminar that the cooperation of Asian nations is essential to make international security export control truly effective. It said Asian countries increasingly have the capability to supply controlled items. It also pointed to the benefits of Asian nations have such a system in place.

The U.S. noted the threat of proliferation of mass destructive weapons and explained its export control laws and regulations, the officials said. The U.S., Australia and Japan also briefed Asian nations on multilateral export control regimes, such as the Coordinating Committee for Export to Communist Areas (COCOM) and others concerning mass-destructive weapons, they said. South Korea told the seminar that it has already introduced an export control system, while Hong Kong said its system is similar to that of Britain, the officials said. The Asian nations voiced hope that more seminars will be held in the future, they said.

## International Police Meeting Held on Gunrunning

*OW2710061893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0548 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—The National Police Agency (NPA) on Wednesday [27 October] opened an international conference aimed at discussing means to halt the increasing number of cases of gun smuggling. The three-day meeting at a central Tokyo conference hall brings together participants from 14 nations, including the Philippines and Thailand, and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol). In addition to Japanese participants from the NPA, representatives from the Prime Minister's Office, Finance Ministry, Foreign Ministry, Justice Ministry and the Maritime Safety Agency also took part in the opening day's session.

Tsuneo Nakata, head of the NPA's safety department, said in his opening address, "even in Japan, the number of crimes involving pistols is on the increase and the number of handguns confiscated from ordinary citizens is also on the rise."

"We are trying our best to prevent guns from getting into Japan, but 90 percent of the confiscated guns are smuggled into Japan from a limited number of countries," said Nakata, stressing the need for international cooperation in halting gunrunning.

According to the NPA, in the last five years, 394 handguns have been confiscated from people trying to smuggle them into Japan, with 172 of the guns originating in the Philippines, followed by 116 from the United States. The conference will continue through Friday and discuss the situation of gun smuggling in each country and international cooperation in halting the illegal gun trade.

## Japan

### U.S. Economist Favors Rate of 105 Yen to Dollar

*OW2810050793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0451 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—A drop in the dollar's value to around 105 yen would help to substantially reduce Japan's huge current account surpluses with the United States and the rest of the world, U.S. Economist C. Fred Bergsten said Thursday [28 October].

Bergsten said he basically supported a yen-dollar exchange range of 100 to 110 yen on a long-term basis and praised the recent level of around 108 yen. But he added he "would feel more comfortable with... a modest strengthening of the yen to the middle of 105 yen."

There is "some nervousness" about the recent yen-dollar rate, Bergsten, director of the Institute for International Economics, a Washington-based think tank, said at a seminar in Tokyo. "The yen's appreciation to 100 to 110 to the dollar is the range that should be maintained in the future that would assure a very substantial reduction in Japan's trade and current account surplus both globally and with the U.S. within the next couple of years," Bergsten told an economic forum here.

A rise of 1 percent in the yen's value against the dollar would reduce Japan's global trade surplus by 3 billion to 4 billion dollars in two years and its trade surplus with the U.S. by 1 billion dollars, Bergsten said.

Maintaining the current yen-dollar level, if there is "even a modest pickup in economic growth here in Japan," should halve Japan's current account surplus to bring it under 2 percent of its gross domestic product, as sought by the United States, he said.

Bergsten said the yen's rise to around 100 to the dollar in mid-August was "too rapid." He said, "I sympathize greatly with Japanese companies... which complained" about the appreciation over the past year.

As a way to prevent violent fluctuations in yen-dollar rates in the future, Bergsten proposed Japan and other Group of Seven (G-7) leading industrialized countries set "a target zone" for the dollar of 100 to 110 yen.

Japan, the U.S. and other G-7 nations "now need to cooperate effectively to maintain" the yen-dollar rate at the current level, in order to "avoid any renewed weakening of the yen that could disrupt the adjustment of external current account positions," Bergsten said.

As a means to keep the yen-dollar rate within the targeted zone, Bergsten underscored the importance of coordinated intervention by the G-7 countries. Dollar-supporting intervention by the Japanese monetary authorities at the time of the yen's rise to the 100 mark to the dollar in August was "quite effective," he said. But he indicated the step could have been more effective if there had been similar support from other G-7 countries, saying solitary intervention by Japan in a similar situation in the future "could only slow the yen's appreciation."

As another way of correcting Japan's current account imbalance, Bergsten called for the Japanese Government to take stronger fiscal measures to expand domestic demand. An increase of 1 percent in Japan's domestic demand in terms of GDP would curtail its current account surplus by 5 billion dollars, he said.

Bergsten cited an income tax reduction as one of the fiscal measures that could be taken by Japan.

### Discusses Trade Benchmark Issue

*OW2810081593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0746 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Influential U.S. economist Fred Bergsten on Thursday [28 October] criticized Japan for failing to respond positively to a U.S. call to introduce numerical benchmarks in bilateral trade. "An early and tangible progress" in trade talks is necessary, Bergsten told a private economic forum.

Quantitative trade targets sought by the administration of U.S. President Bill Clinton to reduce Japan's huge trade surplus with the United States are "more flexible" than similar requests by former President Ronald Reagan's government, Bergsten said. If Japan further resists such a flexible proposal, the U.S. Congress would prepare a "retaliatory" bill that contains a clause requiring Tokyo to adopt numerical targets, said Bergsten, director of the Washington-based Institute for International Economics. He said it would be quite hard for Clinton to oppose the bill.

Bergsten, a former assistant secretary of the treasury for international affairs under former President Jimmy Carter is said to have influence on Clinton's economic policy. He also recommended at the seminar upgrading the status of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum.

It should be "a more negotiating body" instead of "a mere consultative forum," he said.

### Official Expresses 'Disagreement'

*OW2810061893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0600 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—A senior Japanese Trade Ministry official expressed disagreement Thursday [28 October] with an American economist's remarks in favor of a higher yen against the U.S. dollar to reduce Japan's current-account surplus.

Tsutomu Makino, director general of the Secretariat of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry

(MITI), said at a press conference. "We think the current level in the upper half of 108 yen is too high and even a 110 yen level is too high."

Makino made the comments when asked about economist C. Fred Bergsten's statement at a seminar in Tokyo that he basically supports a yen-dollar exchange range of 100 to 110 yen on a long-term basis.

### Better U.S. Economy Said Good for Tokyo

*OW2810132193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1310 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—The third-quarter growth in U.S. gross domestic product (GDP) is evidence of an economic recovery which will in turn have a good influence on Japan's economic conditions, a Bank of Japan [BOJ] source said Thursday [28 October].

In Washington, the U.S. Government announced the same day that the nation posted an annualized growth in GDP of 2.8 percent in the July-September quarter. The BOJ source said the result was not far from his earlier predictions.

Meanwhile, market watchers said the popularity of the U.S. dollar is likely to remain unchanged and the GDP growth rate itself was mostly what the market had been anticipating.

### U.S. Camp Hansen Live-Fire Exercise Discussed

*OW2710004293 Naha NHK Television in Japanese 0317 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The U.S. Marine Corps' [USMC] two-day, live-fire exercise across Prefectural Highway 104 started again today at Kin-cho. As they did last week, shells were fired one after another into the Onna Mountain range.

In the live-fire exercise, which started today at Camp Hansen in Kin-cho, a USMC artillery unit inspected 155 mm howitzer shells first. After firing the first shell shortly before 0900, they began to fire 155 mm howitzer shells into the Onna Mountain range.

The USMC held a live-fire exercise across Prefectural Highway 104 only last week. Today's training is the 10th exercises being held so far this year.

At the actual location of the exercise, labor unions and other groups, which are against the live-fire exercise, held a protest rally. About 80 people, including labor union members, attended the rally.

Zenshun Arakaki, chairman of the Okinawa Peace Movement Center, spoke at the rally, saying that people should express their anger and call for a halt to the training. He said that it is important for us to do so every time an exercise is held. In addition to a suspension of live-fire exercises, he also expressed opposition to the construction of the Maritime Self-Defense Force's P-3C Communications Facility.

Communist-influenced groups also held a rally today near Camp Hansen.

### City, Town Heads Seek Withdrawal of U.S. Unit

*OW2710002893 Naha NHK Television in Japanese 0317 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The U.S. Air Force Special Operations Wing [SOW] will be permanently stationed at Kadena Air Base [KAB]. In this regard, representatives of villages, towns, and cities in central Okinawa visited the U.S. Consulate General and a central government office today to call for the SOW's withdrawal. Those making the visit were mayors and town chiefs of 13 municipalities, including Okinawa City and Yomitan Village, in central Okinawa.

They first visited the U.S. Consulate General at Nishihara in Urasoe city and asked the consul general to withdraw the SOW.

After that, they met with Tadayuki Someha, director of the Naha Defense Facilities Agency Bureau [DFAB]. In the meeting, the representatives said: We announced a statement of opposition when the SOW came to KAB three years ago. Now, it is going to stay here permanently. The people in the central region just cannot accept this. We ask you to understand the feelings of 400,000 people living in the central region.

In this way, the representatives called for the SOW's withdrawal.

In response, Director Someha said: I was informed that the decision was a result of operational coordination made by the U.S. Forces in Japan [USFJ]. We will try our best and ask the USFJ not to inconvenience the residents by creating noise.

At the meeting, the representatives expressed their severe opinions, saying that we just cannot understand why Okinawa has to be the sole sufferer from the operational coordination.

Regarding the permanent stationing decision, on the other hand, a group of Prefectural Assembly members will leave for Tokyo this afternoon. They will visit the Foreign Ministry and other relevant organizations to deliver the prefectural assembly's protest resolution and a written opinion against the decision.

### Group: U.S. Bases Ignore Environmental Standard

*OW2810102793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0953 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—The government should bring the U.S. military to heel for ignoring

Japanese environmental standards concerning toxic deposits at an air base in Okinawa, the director of a peace group said Thursday [28 October].

Hiro Umebashi of the Pacific Campaign for Disarmament and Safety said at a press conference that deposits of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) in the soil at Kadena U.S. Air Force Base in Okinawa are some 50,000 times the maximum level permitted by Japanese standards. His organization has written to the directors general of the Defense Agency, the Environmental Agency and the Okinawa Development Agency explaining the issue and urging them to insist the U.S. clean up the site.

Japanese regulations allow a PCB soil concentration of 0.0005 parts per million (ppm). However, the contaminated soil registers levels of 25 ppm and above, according to Umebashi, who said it poses a "considerable threat to the local environment."

While the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty does not set environmental standards for bases, Umebashi said both sides have recognized the need to show consideration for local communities. Umebashi said the U.S. military is reluctant to divulge information and is thus hindering the cleanup process.

PCBs are used as lubricants and coatings, and are valued for their heat and fire-resistant properties. They are extremely poisonous, especially to fish, and do not readily decompose in soil or water.

Two accidents occurred in the late 1980s at the base and PCBs leaked into the soil—57 liters in November 1986 and 95 liters in July 1987—threatening the Kadena ground water and surrounding environment, according to Umebashi. U.S. military information confirms at least one of the accidents.

## Tokyo Buys U.S. Rice for First Time Since 1967

*OW2710233693 Tokyo KYODO in English 2317 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Washington, Oct. 27 KYODO—Japan has bought nearly 15,000 metric tons of rice from U.S. suppliers for the first time in nearly three decades to make up for a bad harvest this year, a U.S. rice industry group said Wednesday [27 October].

The U.S. Rice Millers' Association said Japan's food agency placed the order, which would make it the first Japanese bulk purchase of U.S. rice since 1967. The purchase represents "a good first step that can lead to a long-term beneficial relationship between the U.S. rice industry and Japan," said David Graves, president of the industry group.

According to the U.S. Agriculture Department, Japan regularly bought U.S. rice in the early 1960s but ended the imports in 1967.

A record bad harvest in Japan is forcing the Japanese Government to import rice this year, but Tokyo has insisted that the purchase will be on a once-only basis.

Japan has traditionally sought to maintain self-sufficiency in rice but is being forced to allow emergency imports as forecasts show that the domestic harvest this year is likely to fall nearly 30 percent short of the average annual output.

Japanese importation of U.S. rice "will enhance Japan's food security" and give the Japanese "a good opportunity to see firsthand that the U.S. produces a high-quality rice," Graves said.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Espy, who visited Japan earlier this month, said afterward that he expects Japan to buy between 300,000 and 500,000 tons of rice from the United States to cope with the shortfall.

Japan has said it will also import rice from Thailand, China and Taiwan.

## LDP Presents Bill Opposing Rice Tariffication

*OW2810051193 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] today submitted a bill to the Diet calling on it to pass a resolution opposing the GATT's proposal for tariffication without exception, which will lead to free importing of rice.

In a news conference earlier today, Sadatoshi Ozato, chairman of the party Diet Affairs Committee, insisted that conditions surrounding agricultural issues are changing a great deal and in light of this situation, it is necessary for the Diet to clarify its responsibilities on the rice liberalization issue. He said the LDP planned to introduce a bill independently to the Diet calling on it to adopt a resolution opposing tariffication without exception.

The LDP later presented the bill to the Diet. In it, the party calls on the government to make stepped-up efforts to stick to the position of objecting to tariffication without exception, and to maintain the stand of opposing rice import liberalization. It also calls on the government to maintain the policy of self-sufficiency on rice.

The Diet passed a similar resolution bill to oppose rice liberalization five years ago.

Regarding the issue of rice liberalization, the Social Democratic Party of Japan, which is one of the coalition parties, some time ago declared it would look favorably toward adopting such a resolution, but other coalition parties such as Komeito are cautious about taking such action. As such, the coalition parties have not been able to decide whether or when the Diet should adopt a resolution regarding the issue.

### Diet Vote on Rice Resolution Said 'Not Likely'

*OW2810141193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1350 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—The Diet is not likely to vote on a proposed resolution submitted by the opposition Liberal Democratic Party urging a reconfirmation of Japan's rice import ban, parliamentary sources said Thursday [28 October].

Shinseito and Komeito, two key players in the coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro hosokawa, strongly opposed the plan and a similar resolution proposal by the Social Democratic Party [of Japan] [SDPJ], the sources said.

The House of Representatives was earlier expected to pass a resolution Friday against replacing Japan's ban on rice imports with tariffs, the sources said.

The LDP resolution proposal, submitted Thursday to speaker Takako Doi, urges the government to reject a proposed comprehensive tariffication scheme, that would include rice, being discussed in the Uruguay Round of global trade talks in Geneva. The resolution urges the government to maintain its policy of self-sufficiency in rice.

A Diet resolution legally has no binding power but cannot be easily ignored by the government.

At a meeting of top executives of the seven parties, Secretary General Wataru Kubo of the SDPJ, the largest among the seven coalition parties, urged the partners to submit a coalition-backed resolution in line with the July 29 accord among coalition parties to reconcile differences on basic policies.

The July agreement committed the seven coalition parties to take over the basic policies of successive LDP governments, including the rice import ban, to prevent policy squabbles from undermining the unity of the coalition. However, Shinseito co-leader Ichiro Ozawa told the meeting, "we should not approve of a proposal to submit such a resolution, as the Diet passed three similar resolutions in the past and because last-ditch talks are underway in the Uruguay Round."

Komeito Secretary General Yuichi Ichikawa, Ozawa's close ally, immediately voiced his support for Ozawa's position, they said. The two leaders' intervention into the talks prompted the coalition partners to decide to refrain from submitting its own antiliberalization resolution to the Diet, they said.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Eijiro Hata, a Shinseito legislator, next Monday will leave for Geneva and Brussels to join Uruguay Round negotiations.

Shinseito and Komeito demonstrated reluctance to back the resolution, saying it would tie the government's hands in the talks under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the sources said.

The standoff between the SDPJ and the Shinseito-Komeito alliance over the rice issue may gradually undercut the solidarity of the ruling coalition, they said.

Japan's rice import ban and differences over farm trade between the United States and the European Community (EC) are regarded as major obstacles to a successful conclusion of the seven-year-old round by the December 15 deadline. Farm talks between the United States and the EC, however, have recently made progress.

The Diet passed resolutions against foreign access to Japan's rice market in 1980, 1984 and 1988.

LDP Diet Affairs Committee Chairman Sadatoshi Ozato criticized the emerging differences within the coalition for being "completely incomprehensible." He said the LDP will continue to demand a parliamentary vote on its resolution.

### Aomori To Halt Sales of Some Types of Rice

*OW2610043493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0337 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Aomori, Oct. 26 KYODO—Rice wholesalers in Aomori Prefecture in northern Japan plan to suspend sales of some varieties due to low supplies following a poor harvest, their association said Tuesday [26 October].

The association, grouping all rice wholesalers in the prefecture, said it plans to suspend sales of six varieties of rice until supplies are stable. The six varieties include a popular rice originally developed in the prefecture called "Tsugaru Otome" (Maiden of Tsugaru). Tsugaru is an old name for the Aomori region.

Because of the wet and cool summer, the 1993 rice harvest in Aomori Prefecture is estimated to have been the worst in 80 years.

### Retail Rice Prices 'Spiral' in Hokuriku, Kyushu

*OW2710095793 Tokyo KYODO in English 0929 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Retail prices of rice have soared in regions where new crops are first delivered, in anticipation of supply shortages resulting from the worst postwar harvest, the Food Agency reported Wednesday [27 October]. The upward spiral was particularly notable in such regions as Kyushu, Japan's southernmost main island, and Hokuriku, a major granary along the Japan Sea coast of northern Japan, the agency said.

The agency said its survey conducted on about 2,000 retailers across the nation in late September showed that retail prices rose an average 0.5 to 1.2 percent, or 22 yen to 68 yen per 10 kilograms, over the previous month. A rise of 531 yen per 10 kilograms was reported in Ishikawa Prefecture on the Japan Sea coast, the agency said.

Retail prices of rice containing over 80 percent of the top-grade rose in 18 prefectures where the newly harvested rice is first distributed, it said. Medium-quality rice blending all five grades rose 22 yen per 10 kilograms on average, the agency said.

### Rice Harvest Said Worse Than Sep Forecast

*OW2810112793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1059 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Japan's rice harvest index for the 1993 crop year will eventually decrease to around 70 against a normal year of 100, even worse than forecasts made in September and early October, government sources said Thursday [28 October].

Under the current method of calculation, the worst harvest index so far was 84 in 1953. In 1945, the index was 67, but using a different formula.

According to documents obtained by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, an index used to measure the level of harvests dropped to 75 in a survey conducted in mid-October, which means the shortage is about 25 percent compared with average years, down from an index of 80 at a mid-September survey.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries will officially announce their mid-October report on Friday afternoon.

The worst among the prefectures is Aomori, whose index fell 4 points from September to 28.

The total nationwide harvest is expected to be 7.92 million tons. The level will be the worst since the 5.82 million tons posted at the end of World War II in 1945.

The shortage is expected to total 2.5 million tons this year. The government has already decided to import 200,000 tons of rice as an emergency step to fill the gap, despite its basic policy of banning rice imports.

Okinawa was the only prefecture that managed to boost its crop compared with the average.

An unusually cool and wet summer directly hit rice farmers, while typhoons also damaged crops in western Japan.

### Hosokawa: Successful Uruguay Round 'Vital'

*OW2810063393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0626 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—A successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round of world trade talks is vital to Japan's national interests, Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa said Thursday [28 October], adding that the government is making all-out efforts to achieve it.

Hosokawa told the House of Councillors' Agriculture Committee, "A successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round is very important for Japan's national interests. Japan is making utmost efforts in line with the main direction of negotiation developments."

His comments were taken as suggesting that the negotiations held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) are continuing with new proposals on several issues, including Japan's ban on rice imports.

On Tuesday, Hosokawa told the equivalent panel in the House of Representatives that Japan had been offered several options for opening its rice market. He said he respected the Diet resolutions of maintaining the rice import ban, however, and that Japan was unchanged in its stance that rice should be made an exception to tariffication—the replacement of import controls with tariffs.

He confirmed the unchanged stance in the trade negotiations in speaking to reporters at his official residence later.

### GATT Members Not 'Able' To Meet Nov Deadline

*OW2610125693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1222 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Member countries of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) will not be able to meet the November 15 deadline for submission of country-by-country liberalization proposals, Japanese Foreign Ministry sources said Tuesday [26 October]. The sources predicted a delay of one to two weeks in the process.

Japan is planning to present its list of industrial products for liberalization under the Uruguay Round sometime near the deadline. But the sources said agricultural products will have to wait until after the November 17-20 Seattle meeting of ministers of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and a scheduled informal gathering of APEC leaders.

The sources attributed the expected delay in the submission of country lists to differences between the United States and the European Community.

### Dunkel Urges Establishing 'Imports' Ministry

*OW2810064593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0628 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Former GATT Chief Arthur Dunkel urged Japan on Thursday [28 October] to set up a single ministry in charge of imports as a way to reform what he views as its complicated trading system.

A single ministry that could "take care of" trade negotiations would be "helpful" to quell "psychological complaints" among foreign traders, said Dunkel, who stepped down as director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) in June.

Citing his personal experience as a trade negotiator for his native Switzerland in the past, Dunkel said, "It was very difficult to follow the Japanese red tape." He cited a consensus forged by his trade team with Japan's Foreign Ministry on a particular trade matter after hard bargaining.

Two or three weeks later, the team was forced to begin new negotiations on the same topic with the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, he told an economic forum in Tokyo.

## DA Decides To Send Aircraft to Mozambique

*OW2810062593 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Announcer-read report over video; from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The Defense Agency [DA] has decided to send C-130 transport aircraft to Mozambique, Africa to carry daily supplies for Self-Defense Forces [SDF] members participating in UN peacekeeping operations [PKO]; and has begun preparations to revise PKO operational plans.

A total of 53 SDF members, including a transport team, have been sent to participate in PKO in Mozambique since last May. So far, the supply of daily necessities has been carried by commercial airplanes. However, the United Nations is expected to formalize an extension of PKO in Mozambique before the end of October. The DA has, therefore, decided to send Air SDF C-130 transport planes to carry daily necessities in order to boost the supply and logistics operations.

At a cabinet meeting scheduled on 12 November, the government intends to revise operational plans for Mozambique to authorize an extension of the period of stay for Japanese PKO participants. The DA wants to add personnel and equipment needed for sending the transport aircraft to operational plans.

Carrying supplies on C-130's was conducted during PKO activities in Cambodia, but this will be the first mission in Africa. The transport of foodstuffs to Mozambique toward the end of 1993 is presently being considered.

## 'Green-Keeping Operations' Proposed for SDF

*OW2810082993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Environment Agency Director General Wakako Hironaka said Thursday [28 October] that Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel might some day be called on to help protect the environment overseas.

Hironaka told journalists at the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan in Tokyo that she recently made informal inquiries about placing the environment on the curriculum at the National Defense Academy, which trains elite SDF personnel.

"I think that would be a very good idea," she said.

Hironaka did not spell out how SDF personnel would assist in what she described as international "green-keeping operations," but said the environment is one area where there is a domestic consensus Japan can cooperate with the international community.

During a wide-ranging talk on her three months as the Environment Agency chief in the cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, Hironaka also said her agency has requested a 9 percent increase in its funding in the fiscal 1994 budget.

Hironaka said she wants to host a meeting of environment ministers from "advanced countries," including Japan, Australia, Canada, the United States and Europe. She said she hopes the meeting will draw up a declaration covering aid to developing countries and the environment.

She said poor nations at the UN-sponsored Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro last year opposed any links between the level of their environmental protection and the granting of aid. "But if the developing countries are willing to make rapid growth, they should not repeat our mistakes," Hironaka said.

"The environment should be an integral part of the (aid) program." Hironaka said the basic environment bill approved by the House of Representatives on Thursday will give the Environment Agency added strength.

Although the bill, which she described as Japan's "environmental constitution," does not mandate ecological impact assessments, she said it will facilitate the introduction of tougher measures in the future.

## Tokyo, Manila Discuss Security in Asia-Pacific

*OW2810115893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1140 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Japan and the Philippines agreed Thursday [28 October] that a dialogue on Asia-Pacific regional security is meaningful to boost the transparency of policies of nations in the area, Foreign Ministry officials said. The two sides reached the agreement at a working-level diplomatic meeting held at the Foreign Ministry, the officials said.

The Japanese delegation headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Hiroshi Fukuda and the Philippine team led by Rodolfo Severino Jr., undersecretary for foreign affairs, also agreed on the importance of a U.S. presence in the region to secure peace and security, they said.

The Philippine side said it wants Japan to further expand trade and investment in the Philippines, the officials said.

Both sides confirmed that their bilateral ties are extremely good and agreed to promote cultural exchanges between the two countries to deepen mutual understanding, they said.

Also during the meeting, the Japanese side explained the government's position on Asian women forced to provide sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, the officials said. It explained a statement issued by the Japanese Government in August which offered an apology to the so-called "comfort women."

Japan and the Philippines have been holding working-level talks since 1987.

## 'Arafat's Brother Solicits Hospital Funding

*OW2710084693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0756 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—International assistance is urgently needed to help construct a new hospital building for Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories, a Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) official said Wednesday [27 October].

Fathi 'Arafat, president of the Palestine Red Cresent Society and brother of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, issued the call in a meeting with reporters at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Japan. Fathi 'Arafat said about 7 million dollars in funds are required to construct a 120-bed hospital in the West Bank district of Jericho. The project also calls for over 4 million dollars worth of equipment.

Under last month's peace agreement between the PLO and Israel, some 14 hospitals and 205 clinics are expected to be placed under Palestinian administration in Jericho and the Gaza. But 'Arafat said the "efficiency" of health services available to Palestinians in the occupied territories remains far from satisfactory.

He predicted that with the return of Palestinians who fled Jericho in 1967, the city's population is expected to balloon from the current 26,000 to as many as 300,000 in two or three years.

'Arafat said international funding for the new hospital has a greater significance than might be imagined. "It is more to enhance the people's preparedness to build more and more the peace process," he said. "If you help to decrease their sufferings, this will help one day for making peace."

## Greenpeace Boat Visits After Monitoring Dumping

*OW2610042893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0043 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—The Greenpeace International boat which monitored the Russian Navy's dumping of liquid radioactive waste into the Sea of Japan in mid-October entered the port of Tokyo on Tuesday [26 October] morning to take on provisions and fuel.

The environmentalist action group's 905-ton M.V. Greenpeace left Hawaii in mid-September after Greenpeace learned of the Russian plans to dump the waste. The boat sailed via Hakodate in Hokkaido, northern Japan, and was standing off Vladivostok by October 10 for its rendezvous with the Russian vessel which carried the waste to a point some 550 kilometers west of Hokkaido.

The crew used inflatable boats to approach the Russian ship and monitor radioactivity levels on October 17 when it was dumping the 900 tons of radioactive waste. Footage of the dumping, taken by the crew, was broadcast extensively by Japanese television stations.

Russia announced it will temporarily suspend dumping of nuclear waste into the Sea of Japan following protests from Japan and South Korea.

## Norwegian Minister Urges Tokyo To Help Russia

*OW2810101993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0923 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Norwegian Foreign Minister Johan Holst on Thursday [28 October] called on Japan to help "socialize" Russia into a responsible nation that will refrain from dumping radioactive waste into the seas. Russia has disposed of significant quantities of radioactive waste in waters off Norway, as well as Japan, and if some of it has to be retrieved, a major international effort will be required, Holst told a lecture at the University of Tokyo.

"I can think of no more urgent common challenge than that produced by military nuclear (waste). We don't know how serious the problem is. We also don't know the scale because the Russians don't have records," the foreign minister said.

The European Community, Japan and the United States should work together not to "whip" Russia, but to "socialize" the Russians to behave more responsibly, said Holst, who won international acclaim this fall for his secret negotiations that paved the way to a Middle East peace agreement.

Resolving the nuclear waste problem will not only be costly, but difficult because the international community will have to deal with "Russian pride" and Soviet inefficiencies, Holst said. But he said tackling such issues could also help solidify international cooperation.

Holst arrived in Japan earlier on Thursday for a 72-hour visit.

### Man Sentenced for Sheltering 100 PRC Aliens

*OW2610084293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0807 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Kushiro, Hokkaido, Oct. 26 KYODO—A man received a suspended sentence Tuesday [26 October] for helping organized crime smuggle 100 Chinese into Hokkaido, Japan's northernmost main island, last June. Kenichi Kagawa, 42, was charged with sheltering the Chinese immigrants at his transport company at the request of a reputed gangster.

Kushiro District Court Judge Kenji Maki granted the prosecution request that Kagawa be sentenced to 18 months in prison, but he suspended the term for four years.

According to the ruling, Kagawa acceded to a request by Yukio Yamauchi, a member of a gang affiliated with one of the country's three major underworld syndicates, to hide the Chinese immigrants in two large refrigerator vans at his company. He was said to have ordered his employees to drive the Chinese from Kushiro in Hokkaido and drop them off in Saitama Prefecture, east of Tokyo.

The Chinese arrived in Akkeshi, eastern Hokkaido, on June 11 aboard a Japanese squid boat that had picked them up in the Taiwan Strait in late May. The deal allegedly was arranged between Japanese and Taiwanese smuggling gangs.

### Portugal's Soares Visits Tanegashima

*OW2710042193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0259 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 27 KYODO—Portuguese President Mario Soares on Wednesday [27 October] visited the southern island of Tanegashima, where the first musket was introduced to Japan when a Portuguese ship was stranded there in 1543. Soares received a warm welcome from local residents when he arrived at the island aboard the Esmeralda, a Portuguese sailing ship.

The Portuguese leader arrived in Japan on October 18 as a state guest. His visit to Tanegashima is part of a series of events being held to commemorate the 450th anniversary of bilateral ties.

Tanegashima is some 40 kilometers south of Japan's southernmost main island of Kyushu. The three Portuguese sailors shipwrecked on Tanegashima in 1543 were the first Europeans to set foot in Japan.

The introduction of firearms changed traditional tactics and fortification at a time when warlords were vying to establish national hegemony in Japan. Several years later, Portuguese Jesuits began coming to Japan to proselytize, bringing with them European sciences, technology, philosophy, literature and cultural attainments.

### 'No Major Change' Expected in Ties With Canada

*OW2610105993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1021 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—No major change is expected in Japan-Canada ties after the crushing defeat of the ruling Conservative Party by the Liberal Party, Foreign Ministry spokesman Terusuke Terada said Tuesday [26 October].

Terada said the Liberal Party has long been calling for strengthening Canada's ties with the Asia-Pacific Region and the Japanese Government wants to build a close cooperative relationship with the new government through dialogue. He also said that as members of the Group of Seven (G-7) economic powers, Japan and Canada have had an "extremely good" relationship and Tokyo wants to maintain and strengthen the friendly ties and bilateral cooperation on the international stage.

The Liberals, led by veteran politician Jean Chretien, swept to power Monday in a general election, securing 177 seats in Canada's 295-seat Parliament. The Conservatives lost their nine-year grip on power, with their seats reduced to two from the 152 they held before the election.

### Hosokawa Cabinet Retains High Popularity Rating

*OW2710034493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0325 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—The coalition cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa has retained a high level of public approval at 75.0 percent, a KYODO NEWS SERVICE poll showed Wednesday [27 October].

The figure represented a decline of 4 percentage points from the record 79.0 percent scored in the previous survey in September. It stayed far above the 63 percent attained by the cabinet of then Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) in 1990.

KYODO Conducted the survey on October 23 and 24 covering 3,000 people aged 20 or over across the country. Of the pollees, 64.9 percent or 1,948 answered. Men accounted for 47.9 percent of the respondents, and women 52.1 percent.

The survey showed that 33.1 percent of the cabinet's supporters expect it will implement reform of the electoral system for the House of Representatives and political funding to help stamp out corruption. The figure, however, declined from 39.0 percent in the previous survey.

The poll also found that 22.3 percent of the supporters endorsed Hosokawa because they believe there is no other politician worth supporting, up from the 16.4 percent in the September survey.

Those who do not support the cabinet came to 15.1 percent, up from 13.4 percent, while those who made no clear answer stood at 8.0 percent, up from 6.0 percent.

Of the nonsupporters, 41.2 percent said they believe the coalition government is fragile, slightly declining from the previous 44.4 percent.

### Mori Warns Parties Against Plotting LDP Split

*OW2810111593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1045 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—The Secretary General of the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) warned the ruling coalition parties Thursday [28 October] against inspiring defections of young LDP legislators to the coalition "with offers of campaign funds and constituencies."

LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori said the coalition is trying to tempt young LDP Diet members asked by the party leadership to move from their constituencies to a proportional representation district at the next election. "I came to know these recruitment efforts are actually taking place after interviewing each of young LDP legislators," Mori said at a news conference.

He said this is caused by the government-proposed electoral system that would replace House of Representatives' multiseat constituencies with a combination of single-seat electorates and proportional representation. Under the new system, many legislators would have to relinquish their home constituencies, where they have mustered votes on the strength of political support groups, to contest elections in new single-seat electorates, he said.

Mori said young LDP lawmakers do not want to give up their constituencies where they have long cultivated the goodwill of voters through the support groups and cash gifts such as funeral condolence money and donations for village festivities. He said it was LDP elders' distaste with the idea of losing their established electorates that undid former Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's political reform efforts in 1991.

Mori said even with the government-proposed reforms in place, "we would be able to win the election if we maintain our unity as a party."

### Ministers 'Instructed' to Concentrate on Reform

*OW2610122893 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Announcer-read report over video—from the "NHK News" program]

[Text] As Diet deliberations on political reform will soon reach their peak in the lower house, Prime Minister Hosokawa, at a ministerial meeting held immediately after today's cabinet meeting, instructed his cabinet members to give top priority to approving political reform bills before the end of the year.

He said: The discussions on political reform are finally coming to an end. I will brace my spirits and do my best for an approval of the reform bills. I would also like to ask all of you to focus your attentions on political reform and deal with the matter accordingly.

The prime minister gave the instruction to the ministers to buckle down to political reform by giving top priority to getting the bills approved within the year because lower house discussions on political reform, the Hosokawa administration's most important task, will reach a climax soon.

### Keidanren Backs Government's Reform Efforts

*OW2710104693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1030 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Japan's most powerful business organization will support reform efforts by the coalition government of Prime Minister Morihiro hosokawa, a senior official of the group said Wednesday [27 October]. Masaya Miyoshi, secretary general of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), made the remark in a lecture at a meeting sponsored by KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

Keidanren supported the emergence of the Hosokawa government that ended 38 years of Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) rule, he said, and reforms in political, administrative and economic fields should be promoted under this administration.

Miyoshi said Keidanren's decision to stop funneling corporate donations to the LDP is aimed at contributing to political reforms. He described the decision as a consequence of the changing political landscape.

### TV Asahi Head Apologizes in Diet for Tsubaki

*OW2710063593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0617 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—The president of Asahi National Broadcasting Co. apologized in the Diet on Wednesday [27 October] for remarks by a former executive of TV Asahi that caused "suspicion" and "distrust" of the network's election coverage. Kunio Ito, however, denied an allegation that the national network's reporting on the July general elections for the House of Representatives was biased.

Ito made the apology at the lower house's communications committee, which summoned him to answer questions about the remarks by Sadayoshi Tsubaki, former managing director and news bureau chief of TV Asahi.

Tsubaki reportedly said at a meeting of the National Association of Commercial Broadcasters in Japan in late September that he had told his staff, "right now we should by all means block the continuation of the rule of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). Anything is OK, so shouldn't we report in such a way that helps put in place a non-LDP coalition government ?" Tsubaki added, "of course this wasn't an order."

Tsubaki resigned from the TV company last week after his remarks ignited controversy over alleged "biased election coverage."

On Monday, Tsubaki, testifying before the lower house ad hoc committee on political reform as sworn witness, apologized for his remarks but denied TV Asahi's coverage of the elections was designed to oust the LDP from power.

Ito said, "Tsubaki testified that he had said what he believed but that he did not give any instructions or orders (about the election coverage.) An internal investigation by ASAHI has confirmed his testimony so far."

The chief executive said the company will learn a lesson from the controversy and make further efforts to produce TV programs free from bias. He said the in-house broadcasting criteria of TV Asahi make a key point of political impartiality in reporting.

Ito was answering questions from LDP member Shozaburo Jimi.

## Secret Payments to Ex-Ibaraki Governor Alleged

*OW2610170493 Tokyo KYODO in English 1339 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—More than 10 contractors handed over secret donations to former Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi late last year, showing a wide range of corruption in Japan's construction industry, informed sources said Tuesday [26 October].

The sources said Takeuchi, 75, received payoffs ranging from 2 million yen to 20 million yen respectively last December when he visited Tokyo. He has already been indicted in two alleged bribery cases from Hazama Corp. and Shimizu Corp. respectively.

During a weeklong stay in Tokyo, Takeuchi met senior officials of the nation's leading contractors, the sources said.

Among them was Shinji Kiyoyama, vice president of Kajima Corp., who was nabbed Tuesday on suspicion of giving a 20 million yen bribe to Takeuchi as a kickback for winning public works projects in Ibaraki, north of Tokyo.

The estimated amount of secret donations Takeuchi received in December should have totaled tens of millions of yen, the sources said. He is suspected of having used the money to purchase discount bank debentures, an investment tool that does not require registration and often is used to keep a fortune by evading income tax laws.

Takeuchi resigned as Ibaraki governor after he was arrested in July on suspicion of receiving 55 million yen in bribes from leading contractor Hazama Corp. In August, he was indicted on a charge of taking the bribe from Hazama.

The former governor was indicted again October 11 on a charge of taking the 10 million yen from Shimizu.

Since June, more than 20 people have been arrested in a series of bribery scandals involving major construction companies.

## Ministry Officials Face Discipline Over Scandals

*OW2710035893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Construction Minister Kozo Igarashi said Wednesday [27 October] that his ministry will take disciplinary measures against its own senior officials over a series of money scandals implicating leading contractors and politicians. "It is necessary for the ministry to reflect upon itself for the scandal as the agency to control the construction industry," Igarashi said.

"Top officials cannot be exempt from responsibility for the matter. The ministry will consider 'comprehensive' measures to assume responsibility," he told reporters.

Details of any disciplinary steps, however, have yet to be decided, Igarashi said. If the ministry slaps punishment against its own officials, it will be the first time that a government ministry takes responsibility for the problems of an industry under its control, officials said.

The mass-circulation daily MAINICHI SHIMBUN in its Wednesday edition quoted ministry sources as saying that punishments such as cutting monthly salary and warnings will be thrown against Igarashi and 10 senior ministry officials.

Since late June, influence-peddling scandals by contractors have come to light implicating more than 20 people, including contractor executives and four local government chiefs. Japan's top three contractors of Shimizu Corp., Taisei Corp. and Kajima Corp. have been named along with three other major builders—Hazama Corp., Nishimatsu Construction Co. and Mitsui Construction Co.

Prosecutors have indicted former Sendai Mayor Toru Ishii, 67, former Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi, 75, former Miyagi Gov. Shuntaro Honma, 53, and Masahiro Oyama, 49, former town chief of Sanwa in Ibaraki Prefecture, on charges of taking bribes from builders that hoped to win orders on public works projects. All the local chiefs allegedly pocketed bribes while they were in office and later resigned following the arrests.

On Tuesday, Shinji Kiyoyama, 67, senior vice president of Kajima, was arrested for allegedly handing over 20 million yen to Takeuchi to win orders on prefectural public works projects worth tens of billions of yen.

### Prosecutors Question Kajima Executives Nationwide

*OW2710044493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0421 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Prosecutors Wednesday [27 October] stepped up their investigation of suspected bribery by construction giant Kajima Corp., questioning its executives and branch managers from across the country, prosecution sources said.

The Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office asked Tetsuo Hanya, a Kajima vice president, and central office managers and top branch managers to visit the prosecutors' offices voluntarily, the sources said. The summoning of the executives appears to be aimed at probing how the construction firm used money from a secret slush fund and to determine if any evidence has been destroyed, the sources said.

The prosecutors Tuesday arrested Shinji Kiyoyama, Kajima's senior vice president, on suspicion of giving a 20 million yen bribe last December 22 to then Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi.

Takeuchi, 75, has been in detention since July on suspicion of taking bribes from other contractors. The prosecutors Tuesday rearrested him on suspicion of taking a bribe from Kiyoyama.

The prosecutors sent teams of investigators to Kajima's Kanto regional office in Tokyo and a local operations office in Mito, Ibaraki Prefecture, earlier in the day to collect evidence in connection with the investigation of Kiyoyama.

Kiyoyama was responsible for dispensing more than 1 billion yen annually out of the firm's slush fund to politicians, construction industry sources said.

Kajima, one of Japan's major construction firms, was seeking to gain entry to a 38 billion yen project to build a dam and a 22 billion yen medical university project, both public works projects in Ibaraki Prefecture, the sources said earlier.

Kiyoyama, 67, who became Kajima's vice president in 1985, is the chief of the company's Civil Engineering Bureau. He is said to be one of the closest aides to Rokuro Ishikawa, Kajima chairman, who served as head of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry until July.

On October 21, the prosecutors arrested Kazumi Suzuki, 64, Kajima's second-in-command at the Tohoku branch, and Ichiro Takagi, 57, chief of Sendai operations, on suspicion of giving 10 million yen to then Sendai Mayor Toru Ishii, who has been indicted on bribery charges.

### Kajima Company Reportedly Destroyed Records

*OW2710153793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1503 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Kajima Corp. destroyed numerous accounting records that might have been confiscated to substantiate bribery and tax evasion charges in connection with its payoffs to disgraced Liberal Democratic Party don Shin Kanemaru and other politicians, well-placed sources said Wednesday [27 October].

The special investigative squad of the Tokyo Public Prosecutors Office will soon start questioning Kajima executives suspected of destroying documents on instructions from the firm's leadership, the sources said.

Earlier this year, Kajima formed an in-house team of officials to oversee the systematic shredding and burning of accounting records and other documents attesting to its payments of illegal political donations and off-the-book payoffs, they said. The team was initiated immediately after prosecutors arrested Kanemaru on March 6 on suspicion of evading 1.04 billion yen in undeclared income he allegedly amassed by creaming off cash donations from major contractors, including Kajima, they said.

By mid-March when prosecutors raided the Kajima head office in Tokyo, the firm had already destroyed almost all the hard evidence that prosecutors could use to back up their charges, they said.

Kajima President Akira Miyazaki told a news conference Tuesday, "our company has not ordered employees to destroy evidence systematically. Individual employees might have destroyed evidence on the basis of their own personal judgments," he said.

Senior Vice President Shinji Kiyoyama, who was arrested Tuesday for allegedly bribing former Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi, underwent questioning earlier this year in connection with the Kanemaru incident.

Kajima also solicited and destroyed the documents it had issued to other politicians to whom it handed over illicit donations, they said.

### Prosecutors Widen Probe of Kajima Bribe Case

*OW2710024493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0214 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Prosecutors widened their investigation of suspected bribery by construction giant Kajima Corp. on Wednesday [27 October] to include the company's Kanto regional branch.

The Tokyo District Public Prosecutors Office sent a team of investigators to Kajima's Kanto office in Tokyo to collect evidence in connection with the arrest Tuesday of Shinji Kiyoyama, the most senior vice president of Kajima.

Prosecutors said Kiyoyama is suspected of giving a 20 million yen bribe on December 22 to then Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi, who has been under detention since July on suspicion of taking bribes from other contractors. On Tuesday, the prosecutors also rearrested Takeuchi, 75.

Kiyoyama has been responsible for dispensing more than 1 billion yen annually out of the firm's slush fund to politicians, industry sources said.

Kajima, one of the country's three largest construction firms along with Shimizu Corp. and Taisei Corp., was seeking to gain entry to a 38 billion yen project to build a dam and a 22 billion yen medical university project, both public works projects in Ibaraki Prefecture, the sources said earlier.

Kiyoyama, 67, who became Kajima's vice president in 1985, is the chief of the company's civil engineering bureau. He is said to be one of the closest aides to Rokuro Ishikawa, the Kajima chairman, who served as head of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry until July.

On October 21, the prosecutors arrested Kazumi Suzuki, 64, Kajima's second-in-command at the Tohoku branch, and Ichiro Takagi, 57, chief of Sendai operations, on suspicion of giving 10 million yen to the then mayor of Sendai, Toru Ishii, who has been indicted on bribery charges.

## Panel Suggests Cutting Number of Ministries

*OW2710083493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0740 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Government advisers proposed Wednesday [27 October] cutting the number of ministries and government agencies from the present 21 down to six in the next century as part of administrative reform efforts in Japan. The nine-member advisory panel called for reorganizing the government in the 21st century into ministries in charge of external relations, national life, industry, national land, finance and the economy, and education, science and culture.

Elder business leader Eiji Suzuki, who chaired the panel, handed the report on its three-year study to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa in a meeting at his official residence.

Hosokawa, who has vowed to promote political, administrative and economic reforms since coming to office in August, will tackle the proposals as one of his cabinet's major policy matters, government officials said.

The report urged the government to draw up an outline for decentralization of administrative power to local autonomous bodies within a year. Its proposals suggested setting a limit on the number of terms of office that can be served by heads of local autonomous bodies.

Long service by governors or mayors is considered as one of the sources of corruption, political analysts said. Former Ibaraki Gov. Fujio Takeuchi, who was arrested in July on suspicion of bribetaking, was first elected in 1975 and returned four times later.

The panel's proposals included reviewing the ratios of direct and indirect taxes in the national revenues. But it made no mention of whether the consumption tax should be raised from the current 3 percent.

It also urged the prime minister to draw up an action plan by March 1995 to promote deregulation and to decide on the introduction of a product liability system by the end of this year. The report called on ministries to review government-affiliated organizations by March 1996, though it did not mention the names of specific organizations to be abolished or slimmed down.

Other proposals were to make the Diet more of a policy forum and to establish the post of prime ministerial assistants. It also said parliamentary vice ministers should be made junior ministers and allowed to reply to points concerning their ministries raised in Diet sessions.

## BOJ Chief Urges Removal of Restraint on Loans

*OW2710085393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Bank of Japan [BOJ] Governor Yasushi Mieno on Wednesday [27 October] called on financial institutions to remove restraint on providing loans to corporations. Mieno made the appeal in a regular consultation meeting between the central bank and the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

Acknowledging that banking institutions remain careful about extending loans in the wake of the burst of the so-called "bubble economy," he said the financial community is not providing sufficient support to industries.

Mieno pledged that the central bank will support efforts by financial institutions to dispose of bad loans, a task which he said is vital for their financial health. He dispelled concern that the record low official discount rate, which stands at 1.75 percent, may rekindle the speculation bubbles and said the central bank will give top priority to economic recovery in pursuing its monetary policy.

## Ministry Plans Increase in Public Works Spending

*OW2710234493 Tokyo KYODO in English 2323 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—The Ministry of Finance plans to increase public works spending for the next fiscal year by 4.3 percent over the initial budget for the current fiscal 1993, the NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN said Thursday [28 October].

Spending in this category for the year starting next April is estimated at 8,934.0 billion yen, compared with 8,565.4 billion yen planned to be allocated for the current financial year under the original budget, the major economic daily said.

The ministry plans to budget more for projects which contribute to an upgrading of the quality of people's lives than for conventional spending, such as farm-related allotments.

The daily said the ministry's budget compilers may, in an unusual step, offer funds in excess of budgetary requests made by other ministries and agencies, where these are viewed as being unusually helpful in boosting public welfare.

### Advisory Panel Drafts Interim Report on Economy

*OW2810073993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0716 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—A private advisory panel said Thursday [28 October] it has drafted an interim report to the government calling for complete deregulation of economic activity in principle. The Economic Reform Research Council, headed by Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said the report will be formally approved at a meeting November 8 before being submitted to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

The report will urge the government to remove barriers to imports and market access as early as possible under a five-year program, the council said. To promote deregulation, it said the report will call for tight implementation of the antimonopoly law and abolition in principle of controls of retail prices by manufacturers within five years.

The report will propose the establishment of an independent body to ensure steady liberalization, the council said.

The report has been revised after Hiraiwa disapproved of the initial draft's ambiguous wording.

Specifically, the government will be urged to retain regulations on public utilities such as electric power and gas suppliers but implement them with a flexible approach, the council said. Learning a lesson from the 1973 global oil crisis, the report will call for the government to reduce regulations on the oil industry to a minimum level but keep room for government intervention in case of emergency, the council said.

It said the council decided to continue discussions on the legal status of the proposed independent body as members were divided on the extent of its authority.

The report will declare that deregulation is vital for construction of a market economy based on the principle of free competition. In this connection, the report will object to preserving "sanctuaries" for regulations by the government in all fields, including public welfare, education, labor and finance, the council said.

The report also will call for the enactment of a product liability law and urge the government to deregulate the finance sector and real estate transactions.

Regulations on construction of housing should be reduced to the minimum necessary level, the council said. It will come up with a report reviewing regulations by the end of the year.

The report will supersede the 1986 "Maekawa Report," which called for the transformation of Japan's export-oriented economy to one led by domestic demand. The previous report was named after the late Haruo Maekawa, a former governor of the Bank of Japan who headed the team that drew up the document.

### EPA: Consumer Confidence Declines Jul-Sep

*OW2810102093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Consumer sentiment took a new downturn in the July-September quarter, with confidence dropping sharply on labor conditions, a government survey showed Thursday [28 October].

The consumer sentiment index for the third quarter stood at a seasonally adjusted 38.4, down 7.5 percent from the preceding three months, said the Economic Planning Agency (EPA) in its quarterly report.

In the April-June quarter, the index—a gauge of consumer expectations as to whether or not things will improve in five areas, such as general livelihood and growth of income—showed the first rise in nine quarters, with sentiment notably improving regarding labor conditions.

But in the latest quarter, the confidence index for labor conditions fell a sharp 19.8 percent from the previous quarter to 26.4, while the four other indexes showed moderate declines, the agency said.

The index for opinions on overall livelihood dropped 5.2 percent to 42.7, for growth of income 4.1 percent to 44.6, for prices 9.7 percent to 33.0, and for willingness to purchase durable goods 3.5 percent to 44.9.

The survey was conducted on September 15 on 5,036 households nationwide, of which 99.9 percent gave valid answers.

### Ministry Official on Chances for Recovery in 1993

*OW2810102293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0930 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—The government's confidence that Japan's economy will start to recover by the end of next March is dimming, a senior Finance Ministry official said Thursday [28 October].

Risks of a new downturn are increasing and it is impossible to predict an economic turnaround, Vice Minister Jiro Saito told a regular press conference, echoing comments a day before by Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno.

Saito and Mieno both said they have not abandoned official scenarios that the economy will turn the corner by the end of the fiscal year.

"It's something we don't really know," Saito said. "But we have lost the confidence to say definitely that there will be a recovery in the second half" of fiscal 1993.

Saito denied a split in opinion between his ministry and the central bank.

Uncertainty over economic recovery and slumping corporate profits appear to be playing a part in a three-day plunge on the Tokyo stock exchange, despite a major new stock offering, Saito said. Tokyo stocks dropped three days straight through Thursday, for a total of 829.88 points on the nikkei stock average to 19,479.45, along with Tuesday's listing of shares in East Japan Railway Co. (JR East).

Orders for the stock swamped the exchange's computers, causing trading to be halted for a second day as the former national railway's shares slid back from a huge initial jump.

Asked about JR East, Saito said, "it is necessary to watch the situation a bit more," but would not say for how long. When the unexpected problem with the computer trading system is fixed, the situation should become clearer, he said.

Saito declined specific comment on currency rates after a roller-coaster Tokyo session that saw a flood of dollar selling on a remark by an influential U.S. economist favoring the dollar at 105 yen.

Saito said "there is no change at all" in his view that exchange rates should be based on economic fundamentals and that sudden changes are undesirable.

He also defended tighter lending policies by financial institutions, which a key business group criticized Wednesday. "It is an inevitable attitude" considering the difficulties the institutions face in the wake of the bursting of Japan's speculative "bubble" economy, Saito said.

He expressed hope that institutions can dispose of the bad loans they hold and that "financing will proceed smoothly."

### Firms Said To Plan 9.9 Percent Less Investment

*OW2810095393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0903 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Businesses plan to cut their investment in plant and equipment by 9.9 percent for the current fiscal year from the previous year, according to a government survey released Thursday [28 October].

The Economic Planning Agency survey, conducted September 1 on 4,398 companies capitalized at 100 million yen or more, showed they plan to spend a total 44.13 trillion yen, down from 48.98 trillion yen the previous fiscal year.

The decline, however, was smaller than the 12.1 percent drop in the March survey of intentions for this fiscal year ending next March 31, agency officials said. The companies planned to invest 43.06 trillion yen as of March, the survey said.

Major manufacturers plan to scale down their investment by 18.5 percent for the fiscal year, revised from the 15.9 percent drop in the March survey. An EPA official said the downward revision was the first since 1985 when Japan's economy was suffering from the yen's surge.

Usually, corporate investment plans both in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors are revised upward from March to September, he said.

Meanwhile, capital spending by major nonmanufacturers would fall 5.0 percent from the previous year, an upward revision from the 9.9 percent drop in the March survey, the official said.

### Industrial Output Rises 1.5 Percent in Sep

*OW2810081493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0737 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Japan's industrial production in September increased for the first time in three months, rising a seasonally adjusted 1.5 percent from the previous month, the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Thursday [28 October]. Output at factories and mines fell 1.2 percent in August and 0.2 percent in July, the ministry said in a preliminary report.

On an unadjusted basis, however, production continued dropping in September for the 24th successive month of declines, falling 5.0 percent from a year earlier.

The previous longest losing streak was 20 months from May 1974 through December 1975.

Shipments in September increased 2.6 percent from the previous month after falling 1.3 percent in August. On a year-on-year basis, however, they declined 4.5 percent, dropping for the sixth consecutive month.

September inventories declined from the previous month for the first time in five months, falling 0.6 percent after a 0.7 percent gain in August. From a year before, however, inventories in September decreased for the 10th straight month, falling 3.4 percent.

The ministry said production may continue to be dull for some time as inventory adjustment is at a standstill and uncertainty remains over the outlook for final demand.

Koichi Yoshimoto, chief of the ministry's statistics analysis division, said September's production returned to June levels after manufacturers cut their output in July and August because of summer holidays. Yoshimoto said companies made efforts in September to promote sales ahead of interim closing of accounts at the end of the month, which he said contributed largely to the increase in shipments.

A drop in production of air conditioners during the cool summer helped lower the inventory level in September, Yoshimoto said, adding that inventories slightly rose from August if those of air conditioners are excluded. He predicted continuing bleak prospects for industrial production, citing unabated inventories and few signs of recovery in economic statistics such as capital spending.

Effects of the yen's appreciation in foreign exchange dealings might be seen from now on, he said.

The ministry predicted a 5.9 percent drop in output for October and a 3.4 percent rise for November based on a survey conducted early this month.

The ministry also reported industrial production during the July-September period edged down 0.2 percent from the previous three-month period, down 4.0 percent from a year earlier.

Shipments during the third quarter of 1993 inched up 0.1 percent from the previous quarter, but down 3.6 percent from a year before.

Inventories for the July-September period increased from the previous three-month period for the first time in five quarters, up 1.3 percent. However, they were down 3.4 percent from a year earlier.

## North Korea

### Japanese, UK Reports on Missile Test Denied

*SK2810110893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 28 Oct 93*

["Groundless Rumor of 'Missile Launching Test'"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—Paid media of Japan and Britain recently spread a false report that the DPRK was planning a "ballistic missile launching test" in Iran in cooperation with it.

This is a groundless report and a smear campaign against the DPRK.

It is inconceivable that the DPRK making consistent efforts for world peace and security intends to conduct a missile launching test in a far-off foreign country. It is self-evident that at a time when a positive prospect for the solution of nuclear and other problems is in sight in consequence of recent unofficial talks between the DPRK and the United States, the DPRK will not do such things as marring the atmosphere of the talks.

The DPRK has consistently maintained the unshakable position not to export such weapons as missiles.

It is ridiculous of the paid Western media to spread false reports about the DPRK's "export of missiles" to Iran and "missile launching test."

We cannot but take a serious view of the blatant outcry of subsidized Japanese media over "the threat of missile launching test" of the DPRK.

The Japanese authorities raised a hue and cry over the regular missile launching exercise staged by the DPRK some time ago to increase its defence capabilities. As if it were not enough, they are now vociferating about "the threat of missile launching test" of the DPRK in the Middle East. This clearly shows how viciously they are working to vilify the DPRK.

By spreading false rumours about "missile launching test" of the DPRK in Iran, the Japanese and British authorities seek a foolish aim of driving a wedge between the DPRK and friendly Middle East countries and, at the same time, impair the image of the DPRK and put international "sanctions" and pressure on it. It is, however, a futile attempt.

The paid Western media must immediately give up the absurd false propaganda against the DPRK, mindful that groundless propaganda will bring them nothing good but will only reveal their sinister intention.

### IAEA Criticized for Nuclear Power Symposium

*SK2810051593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 28 Oct 93*

["Act Encouraging S. Korea's Nuclear Development"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today exposes the sinister political purpose sought by the International Atomic Energy Agency in sponsoring an "international symposium on advanced nuclear power systems" in South Korea, the biggest nuclear arsenal in the Far East and a dangerous nuclear forward base of outside forces which tops the world's list in the density of the distribution of nuclear weapons.

The analyst says:

The world public wonders why the IAEA held a nuclear symposium in South Korea which has a serious nuclear problem.

The IAEA, ignoring the DPRK's proposal to introduce a light water reactor for a fundamental solution of the "nuclear suspicion," organized in Seoul an "international symposium" aimed at construction for the production of plutonium. This was apparently intended to encourage the South Korean authorities in the production of nuclear weapons and further aggravate the situation of the Korean peninsula.

This is contrary to the mission and the purpose of the IAEA.

Deprived of impartiality, neutrality and objectivity by impure elements, the IAEA left one more stain on its name.

It is well known a fact that its impure officials, in a bid to do harm to the DPRK and isolate it, conveyed a forged "letter" of the UN secretary-general at the 37th General Assembly of the IAEA.

They committed a crime again by zealously partaking of a political plot of hostile forces to stifle the DPRK at the symposium.

This is a challenge to the sincere efforts of the DPRK for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and an act to intentionally lay an obstacle to the solution of the nuclear problem on the peninsula.

With nothing can the impure officials of the IAEA attain their dirty purpose. Their scheme proves again that the nuclear problem on the peninsula can be solved only through DPRK-U.S. talks.

### South's 'Intrigues' on Nuclear Issue Denounced

*SK2810061693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0419 GMT 28 Oct 93*

["Despicable Intrigues"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—The intrigues of the South Korean authorities to hurt the North over the fictitious "nuclear problem" are getting more pronounced these days.

"Radio No. 1" quoted the South Korean ruler, Kim Yong-sam, as saying on October 25 that "The North-South relations cannot advance an inch because of the suspected nuclear arms development of the North" and that "The international cooperation system should be strengthened for the solution of the nuclear problem of the North."

On October 26, the "chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party," Kim Chong-pil, cried that "the nuclear development of the North must be countered decisively because it is not a suspicion but a practical threat." The "Foreign Minister," Han Sung-chu, is on the run day in and day out for the "strengthening of the international cooperation system" against the "nuclear problem" of the North.

The South Korean authorities' anti-DPRK campaign over the fiction of "suspected nuclear development of the North" is an intolerable challenge to the North that is making all sincere efforts for the solution of the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula and a despicable act of seeking international "punishment" and sanctions against the North.

It is all the more grave because the South Korean authorities are continuously crying for the "need of the international cooperation system" at a time when working-level contact is underway for the exchange of special envoys to solve the nuclear and other pending issues between the North and the South.

Facts show that the South Korean authorities are seeking a sinister purpose of containing the North, their dialogue partner, with the help of big powers while driving the North-South relations to confrontation on the pretext of "nuclear problem of the North."

The South Korean authorities must renounce the "international cooperation system," immediately stop nuclear war exercises threatening the North and take the stand of national independence in compliance with the just demand of the North.

### ROK Resolution Against DPRK Denounced

*SK2710143493 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1150 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Commentary by Chong Pong-kil: "Puppets' Finger Pointing"]

[Text] The South Korean National Assembly reportedly adopted the so-called resolution against the North on 25 October. The resolution reportedly urges us to sincerely implement the joint denuclearization declaration, fulfill our responsibilities and obligations under the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and fully accept tentative inspections [imsi sachal], routine inspections [ilban sachal], and special inspections [tukpyol sachal].

We will not try to argue against each of the points made by the South Korean National Assembly. It is clear that the South Korean National Assembly repeated exactly what the authorities are talking about and that the resolution is completely misplaced finger pointing. This is because the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula exists in the South, not in the North. It is an open secret that approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons, including first-generation through third-generation nuclear weapons, are deployed in South Korea, and, moreover, the South Korean authorities in succession have accelerated the development of nuclear weapons on their own.

Nevertheless, after concealing this grave nuclear issue of theirs, they urged us, who have no intention or ability to develop nuclear weapons and who have spared no efforts to denuclearize the Korean peninsula, to implement this or that. This is truly preposterous.

Joining in the anti-North nuclear commotions by the authorities, the South Korean National Assembly even adopted a resolution, a puppet show. In this way, it blemished itself and left another shameful stain in itself.

The South Korean National Assembly, a representative, legislative body only in name, has served as a disguised organization that safeguards colonial rule.

The deployment of nuclear weapons in South Korea started in January 1958, and, as a result, South Korea has turned into the largest storage house of nuclear weapons in the Far East. People all over the world have openly talked about this stern reality in South Korea, and opinions on this issue are divided even in South Korea. However, the South Korean National Assembly has not been able to say anything about it so far. The National Assembly, a puppet of this nature, babbled about the nonexistent nuclear issue concerning their fellow countrymen. This is truly ridiculous.

Also, Japan has produced or brought in and reserved plutonium more than it needs, and built facilities necessary for manufacturing nuclear weapons. As this shows, Japan's drive to arm itself with nuclear weapons has become a real danger. Therefore, the Asian people who suffered calamities from the Japanese imperialists' aggression are wary of this and strongly denounce it.

However, the South Korean National Assembly turned a blind eye to Japan's maneuvers to arm itself with nuclear weapons, which the assembly should have taken issue, and, rather, is groundlessly finding fault with their fellow countrymen without knowing the reality. This, too, is ridiculous and despicable.

In political and moral terms, the South Korean National Assembly is not in a position to say something about someone else. As shown during the disclosure of public officials' properties, the South Korean National Assembly is a den of thieves and crooks. No correct resolution beneficial to the nation can be adopted at a rotten and sick assembly filled with those who illicitly accumulated fortunes amounting to billions or tens of billions of won.

If it has an intention to resolve the pending issues between the North and South, including the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, the South side, instead of having the National Assembly adopt a resolution that inspires confrontation, must stop conducting the Team Spirit joint military exercises and all the other hostile nuclear war exercises against its fellow countrymen and give up the international cooperative system designed to harm its fellow countrymen.

If it, without doing so, continuously finds fault with us over the nuclear issue and aggravates tension, it will not be able to escape from the fellow countrymen's denunciation and will be held fully responsible for all consequences that may arise therefrom.

## ROK Assembly Denounced for 'Resolution on North'

*SK2810053893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0447 GMT 28 Oct 93*

["Disgusting Act of Philistines"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—The South Korean "National Assembly," in chorus with the authorities in the row over the "nuclear problem," passed a "resolution on the North."

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today brands this as a disgusting act of Philistines.

The "nuclear threat" on the Korean peninsula was created with the deployment of U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea and it has become all the more serious because the South Korean rulers have frantically staged large-scale nuclear war exercises against the North in succession with outside forces, the analyst says, and continues:

But the South Korean "National Assembly" passed a "resolution on the North" and called for an "international cooperation system," joining the authorities in the row over the "nuclear problem". This cannot be construed otherwise than an unprincipled, disgraceful act of the blind "National Assembly."

The South Korean authorities are foolishly attempting to cover up by such a "resolution" their crimes in bringing dark clouds of a nuclear war over the Korean peninsula, put pressure upon the North as regards the third round of DPRK- U.S. talks and, at the same time, restrain the United States.

This is, in fact, an intolerable anti-national criminal act designed to block the settlement of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula.

If the South Korean "National Assembly" want to cleanse its dishonor as a "waiting maid of the administration" and "corrupt National Assembly," it must clearly see the truth behind the nuclear problem on the peninsula, stop fostering confrontation between fellow countrymen by joining the authorities in the "nuclear" clamor and accept the North's just demand for the final discontinuation of the nuclear exercises in South Korea and the campaign for an "international cooperation system."

## Further on Visit by Ecuadoran Socialist Party

### Kim Il-song Receives Gift

*SK2610113693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1033 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 26 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song received a gift from the Socialist Party of Ecuador.

The visiting general secretary of the party, Victor Granda Aguilar, handed the gift to an official concerned.

### Kim Chong-il Receives Gift

*SK2610113893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1034 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 26 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received a gift from the Socialist Party of Ecuador.

The visiting general secretary of the party, Victor Granda Aguilar, handed the gift to an official concerned.

### Yi In-mo Meets Delegation

*SK2810062293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—The visiting delegation of the Socialist Party of Ecuador led by Victor Granda Aguilar, general secretary of the party and the general secretary of the Coordination of the Socialist Latin American, met with incarnation of faith and will, Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, on October 27.

Highly appreciating the revolutionary principle of Yi In-mo, his loyalty to the party and the leader and his courage, the head of the delegation said: "Your noble self-sacrificing spirit and example in remaining faithful to your obligation as a member of the Workers' Party of Korea are a paragon not only to the Korean people but also to the revolutionaries of latin America and the world and inspire their struggle."

He noted that Yi In-mo could return to the embrace of the homeland thanks to comrade President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il who have warm love for their soldiers.

He said he was deeply moved by the noble, revolutionary ethos of the Korean society displayed in the arduous struggle for the independence and freedom of the country and for socialism.

Yi In-mo said he could overcome any appeasement, deception and torture by the enemy because he believed in the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

### WPK Greets Ecuadoran Party Convention

*SK2810123093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] sent a message of greetings today to the 12th convention of the Communist Party of Ecuador.

The message expressed the belief that the relations between the two parties would grow stronger in the common struggle against imperialism and for the cause of socialism and wished the 12th convention of the Communist Party of Ecuador great success in its work.

### Kim Il-song Greets Central African President

*SK2710151493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1500 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 27 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings Tuesday to Ange Patasse upon his election as president of the Central African Republic.

Expressing the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will continue to develop in conformity with the idea of independence, peace and friendship, President Kim Il-song in his message wished the Central African president great success in his work for the prosperity of the country.

### President Kim Il-song Greets Czech President

*SK2710111993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 27 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on October 26 sent a message of greetings to Czech President Vaclav Havel on the national day of his country.

President Kim Il-song congratulated the latter on the national day.

### Vice President Meets Visiting WHO Director

*SK2610050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 26 (KCNA)—Vice-President Pak Song- chol met and had a friendly talk with U Ko Ko, director of the Southeast Asian Regional Office of the World Health Organisation, at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on Monday.

Present there was Minister of Public Health Kim Su-hak.

### Pak Song-chol Meets Palestinian, Yugoslav Envoys

*SK2510225393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 25 (KCNA)—Vice-president Pak Song- chol met and talked separately with newly-appointed Palestinian Ambassador to Korea Shahir Mohammed and outgoing Yugoslav Ambassador Milan Seslija at the Mansudae Assembly Hall today.

## PAF Chief Greets Egypt's New Defense Minister

*SK2810063293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0434 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—Marshal O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Marshal Muhammad Husayn Tantawi Sulayman upon his appointment as minister of Defence and Military Production of Egypt.

The message expresses the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations existing between the armies of the two countries will further strengthen and develop in the future and wishes him success in his responsible work.

## Arrival of Nepalese Group, Algerian Envoy Noted

*SK2710083493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 27 (KCNA)—A delegation of officials of the Nepal Worker-Peasant Party led by its secretary Prem Suwal and Hanafi Oussedik, new Algerian Ambassador to Korea, arrived here Tuesday.

## Anniversary of CPV Entry in Korean War Marked

*SK2510053793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510 GMT 25 Oct 93*

["Brilliant Tradition of Korea-China Friendship"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 25 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially observes the 43rd anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] into the Korean war on October 25, 1950.

Recalling that the Chinese people rendered active assistance, material and moral, to the Korean people in their life-and-death battles against the invasion of the international reactionary forces by fully displaying comradeship and the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the editorial says:

The entry of the CPV into the Korean war was an excellent example of proletarian internationalism, which demonstrated the firm Korea- China friendship sealed in blood.

The Korean people and People's Army and the Chinese People's Volunteers determinedly smashed the invasion of the allied imperialist forces of aggression and won a great victory in the fatherland liberation war by displaying matchless bravery and self- sacrificing spirit.

This was a historical event which had a great influence upon the international political situation and inspired the struggle of the peoples for independence.

The peoples of Korea and China are close neighbours and the Korea-China friendship is a durable friendship which has withstood ordeals of all descriptions.

We sincerely hope that the fraternal Chinese people will make a progress in their work for implementing the decisions of the 14th Congress of the Communist Party of China and achieving the reunification of the whole country.

To consolidate and develop the traditional Korea-China friendship established and fostered by the leaders of the two countries is the common purpose and desire of the two peoples. Today when the international reactionary forces are trying to stifle socialism in conspiracy, the two peoples should remain faithful to comradeship and obligation and closely support and cooperate with each other. This is an important demand for strengthening the Korea-China friendship and defending and advancing the common cause of socialism.

We believe that the Korea-China friendship with deep historical roots and tradition will grow stronger and develop by their joint efforts in accordance with their aspiration.

## Council Premier Receives Chinese Ambassador

*SK2610114093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 26 (KCNA)—Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san today met and had a talk with newly-appointed Chinese Ambassador to Korea Qiao Zonghuai who paid him a courtesy call.

Present on the occasion was Vice Foreign Minister Cho Kyu-il.

## Romanian Ambassador Hosts Reception 26 Oct

*SK2710081293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 27 (KCNA)—Romanian Ambassador to Korea Ioan Aureliu Lazar hosted a reception at his embassy Tuesday on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the opening of diplomatic relations between the DPRK and Romania. Invited to the reception were Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Yi In-kyu and other officials concerned. Speeches were exchanged at the reception.

## WPK Receives Messages From Foreign Parties

*SK2810061393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0414 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—The Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] received messages of greetings from national chairman Lambert Mende Omalanga of the Lumumba Congolese National Movement-Original of Zaire, the Federal Committee of the Spanish Communist Party, the secretariat of the C.C., the Communist Party of Ukraine, the C.C., the Progressive Party of the Working People of Cyprus, National Chairman Jean Spielmann of the Workers' Party of Switzerland, the C.C., the Socialist Party of

Yemen and General Secretary Eric Trevett of the C.C., the New Communist Party of Great Britain on the 48th anniversary of its founding.

The messages support the achievements made by the Korean people in the building of socialism under the leadership of the WPK and express the belief that the Korean people would win in the cause of socialism.

They express the hope that the friendly and cooperative relations between their parties and the WPK would further develop.

## Daily Hails Kim Chong-il as 'Outstanding Thinker'

*SK2310105893 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1040 GMT 23 Oct 93*

["Great Pride of Our People Making Revolution Following the Way Indicated by Great Idea and Theory"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 23 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a by-lined article entitled "Great Pride of Our People Making Revolution Following the Way Indicated by Great Idea and Theory".

The author of the article says:

Despite a grave situation has been created in some countries in recent years with the frustration of socialism and the collapse of the ruling parties, socialism has struck deeper roots in the hearts of the people in Korea alone. And it is making a long drive following the road of revolution and construction. It is entirely because Korea has the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as their illustrious leader and has the idea and theory of chuche propounded by him.

His idea and theory are great ones which have further enriched the chuche idea and developed it in depth to a new, higher stage in conformity with the demand of the present time and the developing revolution and they are a militant banner leading the socialist cause of our age along a road of sure victory.

The creation of the great idea and theory leading the socialist cause of our age by the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il holds the most brilliant place in his feats.

The respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song said:

"Comrade Kim Chong-il is adding shine to the chuche idea of our party as the great guiding idea of the era of independence by conducting ideological and theoretical activities with rare spirit of inquiry and energy."

The characteristics of the ideological and theoretical activities of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il lies, first of all, in that he adances all ideas and theories strictly on the basis of our revolutionary practice and develops them with his originagity.

A number of works published by him including "Historical Lesson in Building Socialism and the General Line of Our Party," "On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building" and "Abuses of Socialism are Intolerable" give scientific expositions of the basic cause of the frustration of socialism and collapse of the socialist ruling parties and indicate the true road of socialism and way of revolutionary party building.

The rarely rich and broad revolutionary practice of our age by the dear leader is the source of so fresh and mighty idea and theory.

His ideological and theoretical activities are also characteristic of being profound and encyclopedic and they are run through with the serve-the-people-spirit.

His ideological and theoretical activities cover all spheres, politics, economy, military and culture, and they give clear ideological and theoretical answers to all questions from party building to the building of the state and Armed Forces, external affairs and the country's reunification.

Saying that a leader can get wisdom, guiding ability and virtues from the popular masses, the dear leader always goes among the people.

He put forward valuable ideas and theories after hearing the voices of the masses, taking into consideration their desire and analysing and summing up the experiences of struggle. Accordingly, the ideas and theories of our party are the desire and will of the popular masses themselves.

The richness, encyclopedic and profound nature and originality of the ideas and theories of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are unthinkable apart from his outstanding wisdom and unusual spirit of inquiry.

Keen perspicacity of clairvoyance and a wealth of knowledge, energetic inquiry of not stopping thinking and quest even a moment, the theoretical capacity by which he epitomizes the aspiration of tens of millions of people in one proposition and makes anyone easily understand and fully grasps any difficult practical problem—these are the peculiar traits of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as an outstanding thinker and theoretician.

## Vice-Premier Attends Opening of Concert 27 Oct

*SK2810062993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0437 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—The 12th Yun I-sang concert opened here Wednesday.

The concert was appreciated by Chang Chol, vice-premier and minister of Culture and Art; Paek In-chun, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts of Korea; Yo Yon-ku, presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, and other officials concerned.

Overseas Koreans staying in the socialist homeland were also present.

Yun I-sang has conducted musical activities to reunify the divided country and connect the severed blood vessels of the nation, cherishing the noble spirit of the nation for more than 30 years under difficult conditions abroad.

Several successful pieces of his works are presented at the concert.

The symphonic poem "Oh, Kwangju, forever" and other works were played at the concert by the national symphony orchestra at the Yun I-sang concert hall.

The concert will continue till October 31.

## Reunification Director Urges Struggle for Unity

*SK2810062793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 28 Oct 93*

["Koreans in the North, South and Overseas Called Upon To Turn Out in Struggle To Implement the 10-Point Programme"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—Paek Nam-chun, director of the Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland, expressed the belief that all Koreans in the North and the South and overseas would turn out in the sacred patriotic struggle for reunification to carry out the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation.

In an article contributed to NODONG SINMUN Wednesday he said that 70 million fellow countrymen should actively turn out in a sacred cause of national unity under the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation, the banner of unity.

He said that the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation expounded by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song is a great charter of national unity which indicates the way for Koreans of all walks of life with different ideologies and political views at home and abroad to pool efforts hand in hand.

Noting that all obstacles to national reconciliation and unity should be removed, he had this to say:

The South Korean authorities must not give lip service to "civilian politics," "reform," "unification" and the like but give up the policy of dependence on foreign forces and come back to the stand of national independence, stop the nuclear war exercises which will plunge the fellow countrymen into a nuclear holocaust and pursue no longer the "international cooperation system" regarding the "nuclear problem". And they must immediately stop such anti-dialogue and anti- reunification act as blocking the independent contact and dialogue of people of all strata for national reconciliation, unity and reunification at the point of the bayonet.

## Daily Lauds 10-Point Plan for National Unity

*SK2510104993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 25 Oct 93*

["Great Banner Indicating Road of Founding Unified State"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, October 25 (KCNA)—The 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation is a great banner of national reunification for ending the history of division and confrontation of nearly half a century and open a new era of national reunification and prosperity, declares NODONG SINMUN today in an article headlined "Great Banner Indicating Road of Founding Unified State".

The article says:

In the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song expounds with his originality fundamental problems arising in founding a unified state, the way of founding it and the question of representation, the structure of the unified state and its character, and its policy orientation.

The unified state to be founded through the great unity of the whole nation, above all, must be a pan-national unified state representing all parties, all groupings and all the members of the nation from all walks of life, while leaving as they are the two systems and two governments existing in the North and the South.

The classes and strata are within the nation and the interests of the classes, strata and the regions can be protected only when the interests of the whole nation are guaranteed.

The unified state to be founded through the great unity of the whole nation must be a confederal state in which the two regional governments of the North and the South are represented equally.

The confederal structure of the unified state will be a peculiar structure, most realistic and reasonable, firmly guaranteeing an early realization of national reunification, the great unity of the whole nation and its prosperity.

The equal representation of the two regional governments is a superior and peculiar form of confederacy enabling its members to consolidate national unity by ensuring the equality of the two autonomous regions and achieve the co- prosperity of the nation by promoting balanced interests of the two regions. The unified state must next be an independent, peaceful and nonaligned neutral state which does not lean to any great power.

The neutrality of the state is a realistic and reasonable way of safely maintaining the foundation of its exoernal existence as an independent state under the geographical conditions of our country, lying between big countries, and in the international community in which imperialist and dominationist interests are entangled.

### 20th Anniversary of Local Budget System Marked

*SK2810063593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Pyongyang, October 28 (KCNA)—A meeting commemorating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the policy of the local budget system by the great leader President Kim Il-song was held here Wednesday.

President Kim Il-song set forth the unique policy of the local budget system under which localities might manage its economic life by themselves under the unified guidance of the state in the 1970s when the scale of the local economic life expanded as never before after the realisation of socialist industrialization.

This system of our style is the chuche-based method of managing local economic life whereby all localities build up their economic life by themselves with a high degree of creativeness and responsibility, develop the local economy by exploiting local reserves to the maximum and enjoy material benefit and premium according to the profits they give to the state, while guaranteeing the independent and creative life of the people.

Minister of Finance Yun Ki-chong in her report said that the presentation of the policy of the local budget system by the great leader has brought the guideline to which the party of the working class in power should hold fast in managing the local economic life in the whole course of building socialism and communism.

The great leader has wisely led all localities to bring about an epoch-making turn in building up local economic life by carrying through the unique policy of local budget system.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has further enriched and developed the idea of the system with his outstanding ideological and theoretical activities and wise guidance.

Our style local budget system is giving full play to its great superiority and vitality in the socialist construction.

Thanks to positive efforts of all the provinces, cities and counties to increase budgetary revenue and reduce expenditure by developing the local industry, agriculture and public services and catering establishments, all the local areas have appropriated expenditure with their own income and brought much profits to the state since 1977.

The local budget system is a reliable guarantee for the consolidation of the independent national economic foundations of the country, the improvement of the material and cultural life of our people, the superiority of our style socialist system and the prosperity and development of the country by strengthening the independence of the local economy.

Meanwhile, a symposium on experiences commemorating the day was held on the same day.

## South Korea

### 'Sources' Cited on DPRK-U.S. Talks Progress

*SK2810012293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0101 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Washington, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—North Korea and the United States held their fourth contact this month in New York on Wednesday at Pyongyang's request, according to a State Department official. The official refused to disclose who attended the meeting or what was on the agenda, but inside sources say the contact was between Ho Chong, deputy chief of the North Korean mission to the United Nations, and Kenneth Quinones, State Department desk chief for North Korean affairs.

The sources say that they believe that North Korea responded positively to U.S. demands for continued safeguards activities by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), and noted that it was Pyongyang that requested Wednesday's meeting.

Pyongyang and Washington are in a tug-of-war as the "deadline" nears when film in inspection cameras at North Korean nuclear facilities are to run out, although some say the film won't run out until sometime next month.

North Korea wants an announcement that Team Spirit, an annual South Korea-U.S. military exercise, is canceled for next year before it will allow in an IAEA inspection team.

But the United States demands that North Korea accept the IAEA team and agree to exchange presidential envoys with South Korea before it cancels Team Spirit and holds another round of high-level talks.

Washington reportedly told the Stalinist state it is willing to discuss relations improvement in a package deal to solve the nuclear problem, but the sources said that the idea is only at a very initial stage of exchanging opinions.

The Seoul-Washington Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) is in South Korea on Nov. 3-4 and the decision on next year's Team Spirit is a centerpiece issue. The sources said North Korea will have to make its own decision about allowing the IAEA inspection team around that time.

### U.S. Said Moving Toward 'More Normal Relations'

*SK2810023493 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 28 Oct 93 p 1*

[Report by Washington-based correspondent Kim Hak-sun]

[Text] The U.S. Government is ready to take steps for more normal U.S.-North Korean relations if North Korea accepts nuclear inspection, a U.S. State Department official said on 26 October.

The U.S. State Department official admitted that unofficial North Korean-U.S. contacts were made in New York recently to discuss the North Korean nuclear issue and the issue of U.S. recognition of North Korea. By using the expression "more normal relations," he hinted that negotiations for the normalization of diplomatic relations between North Korea and the United States were under way. The official added: While the North Korean nuclear issue remains unresolved, it is too early to speculate on whether negotiations will lead to the recognition stage.

Prior to this, a North Korean diplomat stationed in Bangkok, interviewed by REUTERS, confirmed that U.S. and North Korean officials were holding secret talks to discuss the suspected North Korean nuclear development and the U.S. Government's recognition of North Korea. He added that he thought both sides were satisfied with the talks.

### U.S. Manufacturer Promoting Patriot Missiles

*SK2710032293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0104 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Washington, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—The American manufacturer of the Patriot missile system took pains Tuesday to promote sales of its interceptor missiles in South Korea prior to the annual Seoul-Washington Security Consultative Meeting (SCM) next week. Executives of Raytheon Co. flew to Washington from Boston to meet with Korean reporters to "correct" the impression that the anti-missile missile has faults. The Patriot gained fame during the 1991 Gulf War with its interception of Iraqi scud missiles.

Raytheon spokespeople refuted the critical view that the hit probability of the Patriot missile is much poorer than reported in the Gulf War and is unsuitable for use on the mountainous Korean peninsula by claiming that the missile system being offered to Seoul is improved and more advanced.

When asked to comment on complaints from Korea over Raytheon's technology transfer program, they promised to do their best to satisfy Korea but did not elaborate. Raytheon said it had no sales agency in Korea but was negotiating directly with the Korean Government. Raytheon may be active in sales promotion as a result of the recent Yulgok military build-up program controversy in Korea, and such efforts can reflect the difficulties of its negotiations with Seoul, observers say.

### '500 Students' Demonstrate Outside U.S. Center

*SK2810022393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0216 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Kwangju, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—Hundreds of college students stormed the Kwangju American Center on Thursday in remembrance of Yun Kum-i, a bar girl killed a year ago by an American soldier. Over 500 students from Chonnam, Choson and other universities in Cholla Province demonstrated outside the center with steel pipes and rocks after declaring a week of anti-U.S. struggle until Nov. 3. Riot policemen blocked the rioters with tear gas as they tried to force their way into the American Center.

The week commemorates Yoon, who was allegedly beaten to death by live-in boyfriend Cpl. Kenneth Markle, and protests U.S. spying in Korea, students said in a ceremony declaring the struggle.

### Government Promises To Lift Tariffs After GATT

*SK2710110693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0843 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—South Korea has promised to lift its tariffs on 53 items of steel, construction equipment, medicine and furniture within five years after the Uruguay Round's conclusion in ongoing multilateral customs negotiations in Geneva. It said it was willing to lower duties to 5.5 percent on 177 chemical imports from the current 8 percent in the same period and asked its trade partners to cut their tariffs on Korean textiles, footwear and leather.

In a series of bilateral negotiations with the United States, members of the European Community, and Japan in Geneva from Oct. 22 to Tuesday, a delegation led by Ambassador to Geneva Ho Sung agreed to join them and Canada in their agreement on duty-free and tariff cuts in Tokyo in July last year, according to Pyon Hyong, director-general of the Finance Ministry's Customs and Tariff Bureau, on Wednesday.

The Seoul delegation presented 53 items for the duty-free pact, or 70 percent of the 75 items agreed among the United States, Japan, the EC and Canada, and it offered tariff cuts on 90 percent of the 196 agreed items of the four partners. The U.S. representatives thought highly of Korea's aggressive commitment to the global agreement and proposed more negotiations next month, to which Seoul agreed, Pyon said.

Japan also welcomed Korea's offers, but the EC appeared to be disappointed that its interests were not fully reflected, he said.

Korea meets Canada on Wednesday, re-negotiates with the EC on Thursday, and has bilateral talks with New Zealand the following day.

Seoul hopes to decide on items subject to tariff exemption and cuts through bilateral talks with the negotiating countries by the end of November to draw up its final offer on customs duties for submission to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

## Forces Joined With Japan To Scuttle Rice Opening

*SK2810064793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0641 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korean and Japanese lawmakers agreed Wednesday to join forces to block the opening of their rice markets in the Uruguay Round trade talks. Rep. Sin Chae-ki, chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party's Special Committee for Agricultural and Fishery Affairs, and Democratic Party Rep. Kim Yong-chin, executive secretary of the National Assembly Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Committee, discussed the issue with lower house Reps. Matsuoka Toshikatsu and Yamamoto Taku of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party.

Matsuoka is chairman of the Parliamentarians Union To Protect Japanese Agriculture.

The four decided to form a union of members of agricultural and fishery committees in the legislatures of the two countries to block the progress of the Uruguay Round trade talks which they saw are feared to put farmers of South Korea and Japan at a disadvantage. They decided to convey their position to the summit meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Nov. 19 in seattle and send a joint representative to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) if necessary.

"Given the current situation of agriculture in the two countries, we agreed that desperate efforts are needed to block the pressure for rice market opening is necessary," Kim said after the meeting. "Especially, the parliaments of both countries decided to jointly cope with a recent move by the Japanese Government to open its rice market."

## Further on Issue of Nuclear Waste Dumping

### Joint Investigation Sought

*SK2810111893 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1018 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Today, the government held the second meeting of officials concerned on the nuclear waste dumping into the East Sea [Sea of Japan] and decided to hold negotiations for a joint ROK-Russia-Japan investigation, as soon as possible, of the waters where nuclear waste was dumped. The government held the first meeting on this issue on 20 October.

According to a decision made at today's meeting, the government will negotiate with countries concerned so that a joint investigation by the ROK, Russia, Japan, and the International Atomic Energy Agency can be made in January 1994, if possible. At the same time, the government will make efforts so that most of the areas where nuclear waste is believed to have been dumped, including the waters within 190 kilometers southeast of Vladivostok, can be investigated.

Meanwhile, the government said that radioactive waste dumped by Japan into the East Sea had no effect on the sea because it was filtered coolant produced during the course of normal operations of a Japanese nuclear power station.

### Japan's Dumped Coolant Called Safe

*SK2810021893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0132 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—Radioactive coolant from a Japanese nuclear power station dumped into the East Sea [Sea of Japan] was environmentally safe, the Science and Technology Ministry said Wednesday. The coolant contained tritium, which itself has little effect on the human body, a ministry spokesman said.

Experts from the ministry, the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute, the Korea Institute of Nuclear Safety and the Korea Electric Power Corp. studied a Japanese report on the waste on Wednesday and concluded on the basis of the report that it posed no threat to the environment. The ministry said that the waste dumped into the East Sea was filtered after being released during normal operation of a nuclear power plant and that its radioactivity is well within the safety limit of 380 curies.

Tritium, an isotope of hydrogen having an atomic weight of three, was in the coolant released from the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa power plant between 1987 and 1991, the spokesman said.

Assuming the accuracy of the report, the amount of tritium was within the safety standards set by the International Commission on Radiation Protection (ICRP).

The liquid nuclear waste dumped by Russia will also have little effect on the environment if Russia's explanation is true, though the ministry cannot confirm the kind or amount of the waste nor the method of dumping.

Tokyo admitted to dumping radioactive waste between 1955 and 1969 on over 15 occasions, totaling about 407 curies, which has now been weakened to 11.5 curies, the report said.

Seoul had asked Japan to explain Russia's allegation that it dumped nuclear waste ten times more radioactive than what Moscow threw away on Oct. 17.

### Plans for Radioactive Survey Points

*SK2810115393 Seoul YONHAP in English 1134 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONYHAP)—The government on Thursday decided to set up radioactive measurement points in three coastal areas and promote international surveys of the sea zones prone to be affected by the recent dumping of nuclear waste by Russia. A Foreign Ministry official said the decision was made in a strategy meeting attended by officials from the prime minister's office, Economic Planning Board, Foreign Ministry and six other related offices.

The government, the official said, would shortly try to organize a working-level meeting among South Korea, Japan and Russia so that the three countries and related international organizations could conduct joint surveys of the sea where the nuclear waste was dumped. The international organizations will include the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO). He said that Korea would inform Russia of this plan at a South Korea-Russia working-level meeting set to be held in Moscow on Nov. 3-4 to explore ways to make joint survey of the sea.

Meanwhile, the three areas where radioactive measurement points will be installed before the end of the year will be Ullung-do Island in the East Sea [Sea of Japan], Kangnung along the east coast and Paengnyong-do in the West Sea, the official added.

## Surveyor Ship Ready for Mission

*SK2610105093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0953 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Aboard the "Onnuri-ho," East Sea [Sea of Japan], Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—The "Onnuri-ho," a marine surveyor ship now on a mission to check the effect of the recent dumping of nuclear waste by Russia, arrived at the first point of survey in the East Sea roughly 700 km northeast of Sokcho along the east coast on Tuesday afternoon. The exact location here is 141 degrees north latitude and 136.1 degrees of east longitude.

The surveyor ship, which left Chinhae on last Sunday, will remain here, about 230 km east of the sea zone no. 9 where Russia dumped nuclear waste, for 24 hours checking the radioactive content in the air and the possible effect of the nuclear waste dumped on plankton, fish and seabed soils. The "Onnuri-ho" will continue checking the effect of nuclear waste dumping at three more points as it sails south.

## Test Shows No Radiation Increase

*SK2810092093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0817 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] East Sea, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—The South Korean survey team said Thursday that it has found no increase in radiation in the area of the East Sea where Russia and Japan randomly dumped nuclear waste. The 1,400-ton survey vessel Onnuri-ho left Chinhae port on Sunday for water and specimen sampling in suspected areas and to take measurements.

A radioactive spectrum measured by a sensitive germanium detector fixed on the deck of Onnuri-ho caught a small amount of radon gas, produced by uranium and thorium, isotopes of natural radiation, but experts say this is normal sea radiation. The Onnuri team finished sampling at the second location, 510 kilometers northeast of Sokcho, at around 5 PM and set course for the third point, 45 kilometers south of Ullung Island.

## 'Analysis' on Foreign Minister's PRC Visit

*SK2810092693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0846 GMT 28 Oct 93*

["News Analysis" by Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Beijing, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu's Beijing visit has produced two visible results—he has explained exactly where North Korea's nuclear problem stands, and he has reached an agreement to exchange military attaches this year. At a casual glance, the visit was just a return call for Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen's trip to Seoul in May, but the timing turns out to be opportune as North Korea's nuclear problem is at a critical crossroads.

The international community is heightening pressure against the communist state, saying that the films and batteries in inspection cameras at North Korea's nuclear facilities will run out within a week.

Han and Qian said in their talks Thursday what they have been saying all along, that they don't want the issue to reach the U.N. Security Council and that the problem should be solved through dialogue.

Inside sources in Seoul and Washington say a breakthrough is likely soon, but as Han told Qian, there is still a chance that the situation will turn for the worse, in which case China's cooperation is crucial.

Han's aides said the foreign minister reminded Qian of ongoing efforts at dialogue with North Korea but warned that the matter has to go to the security council if they all prove fruitless. The foreign ministers' meeting came after China abstained from this month's resolution by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) urging North Korea to reallow nuclear inspections. And it came after Chinese Premier Li Peng was quoted in the Japanese press as saying that China opposes any U.N. sanctions against North Korea.

Chinese Ambassador to Japan Xu Dunxin said in a Tokyo press conference Thursday that Beijing "can't agree to sanctions."

The effort at Thursday's talks was to convince China that if the international community decides to move against North Korea, it is because all diplomatic measures have failed. A more concrete result was the agreement to exchange military attaches before the end of the year.

Although it is common for diplomatically tied nations to assign military attaches to their embassies, Beijing has been extremely cautious because of its alliance with Pyongyang. The Soviet Union waited over a year before posting military attaches to Seoul.

To agree to such an exchange despite a history of diplomatic relations of just 14 months will certainly touch North Korea's nerves, especially as the nuclear controversy is at a peak. But exchanging attaches guarantees, up to a certain level, a close look into other country's military movements, which would be mutually valuable for South Korea and China, Seoul officials say.

The exchange, they hope, will lead to actual cooperation such as cross visits by military leaders and observers at special events.

North Korea repeatedly claims that South Korea is engaged in mock war drills with the United States through joint exercises. The presence of Chinese military attaches, possibly as observers at some of these exercises, may be a way to prove to Beijing and Pyongyang that they are not war drills.

### Chinese Laborers' 'Discontent' Affects Firms

*HK2010050093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0411 GMT 20 Oct 93*

[By Tiffany Bown]

[Text] Beijing, Oct 20 (AFP)—Industrial action by Chinese workers demanding better terms from foreign-funded ventures is increasing but few investors have been plagued by as much labour discontent as South Koreans. Between 1985 and the end of June, South Korean companies—escaping rising operational costs at home—invested 715 million dollars in 717 manufacturing ventures in China, according to figures provided by the South Korean embassy.

With the absence of diplomatic relations until August 1992 deterring most major corporations, the ventures have been typically small-scale, employing cheap labour for export-processing work in China's nearby northeast. While by no means alone in looking to China for cheap labour, South Koreans' ignorance of the country—born of a rigid anti-communist policy since the 1950s amid hostile relations with Stalinist North Korea—has created special problems.

"Korean managers don't know about China and they don't know about socialist work practices," said one South Korean journalist here, adding that despite long historical ties they were less qualified than westerners to operate here.

One mistake is to overestimate China's potential, leading managers to pressure workers to meet superior South Korean productivity levels while keeping costs—including wages and welfare commitments—to a minimum. The manager of one South Korean shoe factory in northeastern city of Tianjin acknowledged profits had eluded the three-year-old venture—despite paying basic wages of less than 50 dollars per month—and that he had had a "horrid time" in China. "Korean businessmen think China is a very poor country, so they think it is enough to pay just 50 dollars a month," the journalist said. "But the Chinese workers (used to comprehensive welfare in state firms) expect the company to look after all their needs."

Chinese and South Korean officials agree the main aim of many small ventures is to make their money back as fast as possible, with no long-term commitment. "We have labour laws, setting basic wages and limiting hours to eight a day, six days a week. Few go beyond that but they push it to its limit—unlike western companies," said a Chinese official in Tianjin, a focal point for South Korean investment. The official confirmed workers in at least one South Korean venture in Tianjin had gone on strike recently but refused to comment on a Chinese newspaper report of some 10 stoppages in protest against alleged slave-like working conditions.

In the absence of a comprehensive labour law, evidence of encroachments on workers rights by other foreign investors, particularly from Taiwan and Hong Kong, has also emerged. But labour problems in small Taiwan and Hong Kong firms pale by comparison with South Korean ventures.

The reason—their common ethnicity with the Chinese. "I think for Chinese people, maybe because they have the same blood, it is different. Korean companies cannot be compared with any of Chinese origin," said Hyun Jung-Taik, South Korean embassy economic attache here.

Moreover, a switch in roles between South Korea and China—whose historical relations have been fraught with territorial rivalries—has created new tensions. "This is the first time in 3,000 years that Korea is richer than China. Koreans are very proud of this and look down on the Chinese," said the journalist. "But China is also very proud of its history and they also think their country is very big and Korea is very small."

Hyun was optimistic the situation would improve thanks to the establishment of diplomatic ties. Not only can the embassy now provide potential investors with reliable information on China but the profile of South Korean ventures is changing as large corporations move in, he said.

The biggest investment to date is by Daewoo in a 300 million dollar cement plant.

### Companies Consider Withdrawing

*SK2510022593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0054 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Large South Korean companies are shelving plans for investment in China or are poised to withdraw from the country because of recent slow exports, industry sources said Monday.

Korea's three big automakers—Hyundai, Daewoo and Kia—have long been seeking to build joint-venture assembly lines in China, but have shelved their plans until Beijing changes its policy that prohibits further access to its car market.

Electronics manufacturers complain of hard times as their joint-venture audio and video cassette recorder factories in China are operating at below 10 percent of capacity and they find it impossible to catch up with their Japanese competitors due to unsuccessful market research and poor advertisements.

The Samsung, Goldstar and Daewoo groups' electronics arms have begun to reexamine their plans to build more factories in China.

Daewoo was to build a factory to make 200-liter refrigerators, but withdrew from the joint venture on concluding that the product would fail on the Chinese market.

"We first expected Chinese citizens would go for small refrigerators, but we proved to have misunderstood the market trend as most consumers buy large products of above 400 liters," a Daewoo official said.

Realizing that the industry needs more insight on the Chinese market, the government will send a giant government-private combined delegation of automobile experts to China next month and a group from the electronics sector in December.

The investment delegations are scheduled to meet with Chinese Government officials and industry leaders during their stays to discuss active bilateral exchanges while learning more about the market.

### PRC Consumers Prefer ROK Products for Price

*SK2810091793 Seoul YONHAP in English 0822 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—South Korean products win a fairly good assessment from Chinese consumers but are more recognized for their low prices than quality, mainly due to a lack of publicity.

Chinese buyers gave fairly high points for quality and reliance to 10 of 16 items in a survey by the Korean Embassy in Beijing, trade sources said Thursday, quoting the study. Although Korean goods are of a lower quality than comparable Japanese goods, the Chinese prefer Korean products because they are relatively cheap, fairly good and delivered faster, according to the survey. Items that won high marks were iron and steel, organic chemicals, plastics, textiles, oil, paper goods, leather, machinery, industrial electronics, and electronic parts. Metal goods, fabrics and electric home appliances lagged behind Japanese products in quality and lost to Hong Kong and Taiwanese goods on price.

An assessement of precision and heavy electric machinery and fibers was impossible due to poor marketing, the sources said.

Of the 10 comparatively popular items, increasing exports of textiles, machinery, industrial electronics and electronic parts poses problems because of poor after-sales service and publicity. Metal and paper goods, fibers and electric home appliances have an image as low-cost products or are unfamiliar to consumers.

Korean goods trail Japan in quality but equal or best other competing countries and are economic, the embassy was quoted as saying. It pointed out the need for more aggressive advertising to break the image of cheap products and build quality recognition.

### Nuclear Energy Meeting With Canada Opens 27 Oct

*SK2710032493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0234 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—The South Korea-Canada Joint Nuclear Energy Coordination Committee opened its 11th meeting here Wednesday. In the three-day meeting, Kim Chi-ho, director general for atomic energy policy of the Science and Technology Ministry, leads 15 nuclear energy authorities and experts from the Foreign Ministry, Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute, Korea Insitute of Nuclear Safety, and Korea Energy Power Corp.

Canadian Minister-Counsellor to Seoul Kenneth Sunquist heads the nine representatives of the Foreign Ministry, Atomic Energy Control Board, and Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. They will discuss a revision to the Atomic Energy Cooperation Agreement signed by the two governments in January 1976, technology transfer of nuclear fuel, and technology cooperation in saftey checks on Candu power stations, Canada-made heavy-water reactors, and in managing radioactive waste.

The joint coordination committee has met annually since 1983 in the capitals of the two countries in turn and the previous meeting was in Ottawa in November last year.

Korea-Canada nuclear energy partnership is expected to be active than ever this year as Seoul is poised to build two more Candu reactors in Wolsung and a multipurpose research reactor.

### Government To Open Political Talks With Israel

*SK2610004893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0034 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Israel's first political talks open next month in Israel, the Foreign Ministry said Tuesday. Sin Ki-pok, assistant foreign minister for political affairs, will go to Israel in mid-November for talks on improving trade and political relations, according to officials. Seoul and Jerusalem established diplomatic relations in 1962 but ties were strained after Israel closed its embassy in Korea in 1978, citing financial reasons.

Korea was reluctant to pursue better relations with the Middle Eastern nation because of expected protests from Arab nations but decided to seek political talks after a peace accord was signed by Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

North Korea once accosted Israel for economic cooperation, asking Jerusalem to buy mines for cash, but the negotiations were widely believed to be a disguise for Israel trying to halt North Korean missile sales to Arab countries in exchange for economic aid.

Israel later stopped talks with North Korea at the request of the United States and South Korea.

### Economic Planning Board Group To Visit Hanoi

*SK2710081193 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Oct 93 p 8*

[Text] The Economic Planning Board [EPB] will hold its first policy consultation meeting with Vietnam's State Planning Committee (SPC) in Hanoi tomorrow, the EPB announced yesterday.

A Korean delegation, headed by Kang Pong-kyun, assistant economic planning minister for international economic policy coordination, will visit Vietnam Oct. 27-30. Government officials and academics from state-financed economic think tanks will accompany Kang.

The EPB said the meeting is designed to discuss ways of enhancing bilateral economic cooperation in a broad range of areas such as investment, resources development and construction.

The meeting will also become a forum for the two organizations, both in charge of overall economic management, to exchange information and development expertise, officials said.

The officials said the meeting will help Korean enterprises make inroads into Vietnam as the SPC will assume the responsibility for Vietnam's various reconstruction projects. The second policy consultation meeting between the EPB and SPC is due to be held in Seoul next year.

### Korean Studies Established at Hanoi University

*SK2710032093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0129 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Hong Kong, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—A Vietnamese University has created the country's first chair of Korean studies. The University of Hanoi began Korean studies lectures Wednesday for juniors and will provide lectures for juniors and seniors next year before establishing a regular course of Korean studies by 1997 at the latest, a spokesman for the South Korean Embassy in Vietnam told YONHAP by telephone on Wednesday.

The university will provide courses in Korean language, Korean history and Korean culture, and will open them to Vietnamese officials and businessmen as well as students.

Among the eight professors of Korean studies, one will be from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul, which set up a sisterhood relationship with University of Hanoi in 1989 and concluded an educational exchange agreement with it in 1991. Korea formed diplomatic ties with Vietnam on Dec. 22 last year.

### * Long Ties Between Kim Il-song, Sihanouk

*932C0230A Seoul SISA JOURNAL in Korea 19 Aug 93 pp 44-45*

[Text] The former Cambodian king, Norodom Sihanouk visited Pyongyang on 20 July this year again without exception. Foreign and domestic news media did not pay much attention to his visit because Sihanouk has visited Pyongyang for nearly 30 years without skipping a year since his first visit in 1965. However, this year's visit may bring him special reminiscences for he has finally gained control over Cambodia since the general election in May after twenty years of being dependent on Pyongyang and Beijing after being ousted from power. Now, he can proudly show the world his special friendship with North Korean President Kim Il-song.

The relationship between these two people first started in 1965 at the nonaligned conference in Bandung, Indonesia. At this meeting, Sihanouk actively supported North Korea and China which were still diplomatically isolated. Considering the mood at the time, that the United States had strong influence over the world, it needed much courage for a small country like Cambodia to acknowledge China and North Korea. Kim Il-song and Zhou Enlai did not forget Sihanouk's favor for them. When Sihanouk first visited Pyongyang on 4 October that year, Kim Il-song welcomed him enthusiastically with a mass rally. It was this time that Kim Il-song's new wife, Kim Sung-ae first appeared officially in the North Korean media.

It was 18 March 1970, when Sihanouk was thrown out of power from a coup d'etat by Lon Nol instigated by the U.S., that these two became really close. The United States, undergoing the Vietnam War, wanted a right-wing pro-American political regime instead of Sihanouk who maintained thoroughly equidistant diplomacy. China and North Korea offered well suited regal respect to Sihanouk who was on his way to political exile. In Beijing, he stayed at the former French embassy building used before World War II. That building was the finest residence in Beijing.

Kim Il-song mobilized military men for months to build a "palace like residence" for Sihanouk imitating his own residence, Kumsoosan Mansion. The former NEWSWEEK's Tokyo branch chief, Bernard Christer visited Sihanouk's residence, located in the suburbs of Pyongyang, for two days in 1979 at his invitation. According to his records. Sihanouk would try to soothe his anger by writing songs, making movies, or exchanging the latest news with other political refugees. Sihanouk woke up at 0700, listened to Voice of America (VOA) for two hours, and either met visitors or wrote letters to foreign newspapers or his supporters.

According to Christer's records, fish, steak, caviar, and two kinds of wine (French and North Korean) were always on his table, and Sihanouk watched movies with his family and close friends in the evenings. Both Kim Il-song and Kim Chong-il like movies. They sent Sihanouk the most recently imported films after viewing them. Sihanouk himself was a movie fanatic from his boyhood years on. Sihanouk has made over 20 films since his youth. It was told that while on his throne, he held Phnom Penh Film Festivals and gave the grand prize to the film he made. During his stay in Pyongyang, he showed the films he made to Kim Il-song. "Rose of Bourcoure" was a story of a handsome Japanese colonel falling in love with a Cambodian beauty. The main male and female roles were played by Sihanouk and his wife, Monique.

A few days after showing his films to Kim Il-song, he ran into a room and boasted to those close to him. "He praised my films! He is a man who knows how to embrace people of different ideology from his own." Recently Sihanouk is making a film called "Flower of Batamban." It is a love story between a French soldier with UNTAC [United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia] and a young Cambodian woman. Sihanouk plays a saxophone almost like a professional and writes songs himself playing the piano.

There are at least three songs known to have been dedicated to Kim Il-song by Sihanouk while he was staying at Pyongyang: "Ode to President Kim Il-sung," "Pyongyang," and "The Full Moon of Changsoowon."

Sihanouk's exile was temporarily terminated in 1975 when the Khmer Rouge defeated Lon Nol and regained Phnom Penh. Kim Il-song organized a Pyongyang city mass rally to congratulate Sihanouk's entrance into Phnom Penh on 19 April 1975, sent 50 North Korean regular soldiers to conduct Cambodian military training in December. Also, when Sihanouk was established as the sovereign of state in January 1976, he sent 20 secret service men to support security. However, before long, Sihanouk was placed under house arrest by the Pol Pot regime of the Khmer Rouge. Even though he cooperated in order to get rid of Lon Nol regime, he did not like the indigenous communist Khmer Rouge. In the 1960's, he severely persecuted them.

Sihanouk had to seek exile again in January 1979 when the Pol Pot regime collapsed because of Vietnam attempting to unite Indochina. Kim Il-song received him warmly this time also. NODONG SINMUN called the newly established Heng Samrin regime the "puppet regime of Vietnam" and even criticized the Soviet Union as "hegemonic imperialist." Also, Kim Il-song helped to organize the anti-Vietnam Nationlist United Front that Sihanouk was leading. In March 1981, Kim Il-song made a first breakthrough in establishing the anti-Vietnam United Front by inviting the Khmer Rouge leader, Khieu Samphan, to meet with Sihanouk. He invited Sihanouk to Pyongyang to discuss the future direction of the organization right before the "Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea" was about to be officially established in Kualar Lumpur 22 June 1982. Then, in 1993, Sihanouk won the May election held according to the Paris Peace Treaty signed in October 1991. Sihanouk's exile was finally ended.

The similarity found in these two people as political leaders is the self-reliant ideology which strongly opposes the influence of super powers. Sihanouk has consistently maintained nonaligned diplomatic neutrality since he first came to power in 1941. He had painful experiences of being driven out of power because of super powers such as the United States and the Soviet Union in 1970 and 1979. Kim Il-song also has affirmed the autonomous diplomacy, not depending on China or the Soviet Union, from the 1960's. When Sihanouk first visited Pyongang in 1965, the hanging banners on the streets were sayong "Our comrade country, Cambodia, strongly united with us in the anti-imperialist struggle." However, the two people do not have common grounds on all aspects. Most importantly, Sihanouk does not support socialism. Sihanouk seemed offended by the request that China and North Korea wanted Sihanouk to cooperate with the Khmer Rouge. He said somewhere that "Before I left Beijing, I said to Deng Xiaoping, 'Lets not talk about the Khmer Rouge. We would only argue unnecessarily, throwing dishes.' We talked only about soccer. He is a cold and cruel man." He also said, "Kim Il-song only pretends to help me. In reality, he is on China's and Pol Pot's side. He wants Cambodia to become communist. But I know very well that my people do not want socialism nor communism. That is why he calls my plans anti-communist."

Kim Il-song must have had his own ulterior calculations when he supported Sihanouk who followed a different ideology. Kim Il-song wanted to expand his influence in Indochina and nonaligned nations. Also, there could have been an enormous propaganda gain from the visit of Sihanouk, who was a direct victim of the U.S. and the Soviet Union. That is why Kim Il-song welcomed him with mass rallies whenever Sihanouk came.

Kim Il-song does not neglect Sihanouk for political reasons. There seems to be something that cannot be explained by that. Bernard Christer analyzes, "it shows Kim Il-song's strong Confucian ethical view point that one should not forget a benefactor and should help a friend in need." Kim Il-song is the person who helped Sihanouk when he had to wander and depend on others. Also, Sihanouk helped Kim Il-song to connect with the nonaligned nations when North Korea was politically isolated. It looks like that the two people's 30-year friendship established like this will not end in one morning.

## Novelist Sentenced for Visiting DPRK

*SK2510080093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0702 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Novelist Hwang Sok-yong was sentenced to eight years in prison with suspension of his civil rights on Monday for visiting North Korea and meeting with President Kim Il-song without government permit. "Even though the defendant claims his actions came from a pure desire for unification of South and North Korea, it is evident that he violated the law," a panel at the Seoul district criminal court headed by Judge Yang Sam-sung said. "Considering the chaos that might be caused by people having similar thoughts to his own, his behavior cannot be regarded as just." Hwang was arrested in May.

He was convicted of having "served the interests of the enemy" by visiting North Korea five times and meeting with Kim Il-song seven times since February 1989 and being a spokesman for Pomminnyon, the Pan-National Coalition for Unification of the Fatherland, which the South Korean Government has designated a hostile organization.

## President Hosts Luncheon for Small Exporters

*SK2710122493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0935 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam hosted a luncheon for a group of small-scale exporters and related officials at Chongwadae [presidential offices] Wednesday noon. Those invited to the presidential luncheon were about 60 heads of small industries whose exports reached the level of 1.5 billion dollars and KOTRA (Korea Trade Promotion Corp.) and local administration officials involved in the promotion of small-industry exports.

"You should do away with the easy-going attitude that export promotion is the business of the central government alone," President Kim said. "Local administrations and small industries should actively explore export markets abroad."

Stressing that overseas market exploration should not end in a one-shot business, President Kim suggested the creation of more Korean goods exhibition halls and direct-sale outlets abroad.

## President Urges Administrators To Stop Graft

*SK2810070693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0645 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam said Thursday that his government would continue to fight irregularities and corruption in order to cure the "grave Korean disease" caused by almost four decades of "military culture."

"The nation is suffering from a grave Korean disease under the yoke of military culture, which developed in the course of grasping power at gunpoint and leading the people with gun and sword over nearly 40 years. If we do not cure the disease, we shall hardly be able to take off," Kim told administrators of 14 non-cabinet administrations over breakfast at Chongwadae on Thursday.

"We implemented some reform policies recently such as asset disclosure of senior public officials and real-name financial transactions, but we will continue to remove corruption. Only a clean and honest government can win trust from the people, and we should make people feel this is my government and our government. In the past when the government ruled the people with sword and gun, the press or opposition party's criticism of the government could be justified, but it is undesirable for the press to oppose the present civilian government for the sake of opposition," Kim said.

## 500 Attend Memorial Ceremony for Past President

*SK2610065493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0642 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—The 14th memorial service for the late President Pak Chong-hui at the National Cemetery in southern Seoul on Tuesday morning was attended by roughly 500 people. Pak's son and daughters were there, and so was the executive chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party, Kim Chong-pil, who is married to Pak's niece. Former Prime Minister Nam Tok-u and former National Assembly speaker Pak Chun-kyu also attended.

"President Pak was a great leader, who liberated the people from poverty. I am sorry that the evaluation of him is wrongly made," Kim said.

"President Pak was a great leader, who sacrificed his whole life for the modernization of Korea," Nam added. "We should make a second economic jump along with the Saemaul (new community) spirit—self-support, diligence and cooperation—that Pak taught us."

"I am sorry that as time goes by my father's tracks disappear one by one," his son, Pak Chi-man, said. "I will build a memorial library for my father, which will store and display his relics."

A separate memorial ceremony for Pak at his birthplace in Sangmo-tong, Kumi City, North Kyongsang Province, was attended by around 300 people.

## Former Ministry Honor Guards Commander Arrested

*SK2610125293 Seoul YONHAP in English 1151 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—The Defense Ministry Prosecution Department on Tuesday arrested a former Defense Ministry honor guards commander on graft charges.

A ministry source said Army Lt. Col. Kang Hui-jung was suspected of receiving 25 million won in cash and goods from a man in return for picking up his conscripted son as a member of his honor guards unit.

The source said that while working as the Defense Ministry honor guards commander last year, Kang received a sedan worth 15 million won and 10 million won in cash from the father of the soldier identified only as a Pvt. Hong.

## Auditors To Inspect High-Speed Railway Plans

*SK2610101393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0825 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—The Board of Audit and Inspection (BAI) said Tuesday that it will begin an investigation into the Seoul-Pusan high-speed railway on Wednesday to guarantee the multibillion-U.S.-dollar project's safety and maximize its efficiency. Thirteen BAI technical experts will study the blueprints for the tracks and stations to determine if their location, anti-noise and pollution measures are optimal, and if the coordination among government agencies is proper.

They will pay special attention to the screening procedure for selecting the trainset and the key technologies that Korea seeks to acquire and the plans for adopting them, and safety and quality management of the tunnels, bridges and other railway facilities.

The Korea High-Speed Railway Authority has virtually chosen the French bullet train TGV (Train a Grand Vitesse) technology for the 10.7 trillion-won (13.2 billion-dollar) railway between Seoul and Pusan.

The contract will be finally decided by the end of this year if the negotiations with GEC Alsthom end smoothly. The French bidder must deliver 46 trainsets, half of them localized, by full opening in 2001.

The independent government agency is said to have collected a wide range of materials on the high-speed railway from home and abroad to ensure an objective investigation and sought advice from various research institutes.

"We will not limit our investigation to exposure like in the past, but focus it to present precautionary and guiding steps instead. We will make routine inspections of the project every year between this year and 2001," a BAI spokesman said.

BAI decided on the investigation to seek possible safety problems in the process of adopting the European rail system to Korean soil and to ensure faultless construction, he said.

## Party Leaders' Assembly Speeches Compared

*SK2710032693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0255 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[By Cho Se-hyon]

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—The chairmen of the ruling and main opposition parties delivered speeches enunciating the policies of their parties at plenary sessions of the National Assembly on Tuesday [26 Oct] and Wednesday.

Kim Chong-pil, chairman of the Democratic Liberal Party, and Yi Ki-taek, chairman of the Democratic Party, were generally in agreement on the need for reform to prepare the nation for the rapidly changing international climate and the 21st century. But they parted company on the question of how to carry out that reform, with respect especially to the problems of settling the account of affairs that occurred during past authoritarian governments. There remain considerable differences between the ruling and opposition parties on ways and means of reform with 50 days left for the National Assembly regular session.

Both Kim and Yi set the ultimate goal of reform at unification of the country. The two leaders also offered party policies focused firmly on the nation's survival in the global economic war.

"Our country's market liberalization measures will be completed by the end of this century," Kim declared in his speech Tuesday. "And when the time arrives, we will have to fight the economic war without a shield in a world without borders. This reality is forcing on us to carry out reform and progress for our very survival," Kim said.

To achieve the national goal, Kim made five main proposals: Political reform, development of growth potential and strengthening of competitive power, education, social reform, and unification and globalization of the country.

Speaking to the National Assembly plenary session Wednesday, Yi said, "reform is a demand of the time and the only way for our survival and progress." Reform, he added, has to be pushed on three fronts: Democratization, scientification and internationalization.

The rhetoric used in the speeches was different, but their content was more or less the same.

Though their goals are similar, their assessments of President Kim Yong-sam's nine months of reform efforts are, perhaps understandably, different.

Kim Chong-pil said that President Kim's reform has put the nation and society back on the normal track. He described it as the second start of the nation building. But Yi used the words "new authoritarianism" to describe the Kim government and said that President

Kim has so far resorted to the politics of "improvization," "popularity-seeking" and "shock treatment." But the two party leaders stood apart furthest in their approach to the problem of settling past affairs.

Kim Chong-pil demand a change of attitude toward that problem by saying that the nation has to plan for the future with a productive and forward-looking attitude that embraces all, rather than blindly rejecting and excluding things of the past.

Against this, Yi insisted that real reform has to start after setting straight the distorted and damaged spirit of the people. He again urged the country to dig out the truths and settle the accounts of past affairs, including the series of coups d'etat, suppression of a civil uprising in Kwangju and the kidnapping of opposition leader Kim Tae-chung.

While they differ in their opinions on political reform, the two show remarkable similarities in their approach to economic and social issues.

They both diagnosed that the country's economy is in crisis. In order to overcome the crisis, they saw an urgent need for boosting competitive strength of Korean business enterprises, establishment of better labor-management relations, increases in investment in social infrastructure, reform of the financial system, tax reform and restructuring of the government.

With regard to diplomatic, national security and unification issues, Kim Chong-pil took a relatively conservative stance while Yi Ki-taek argued for a progressive approach.

Commenting on the North Korean nuclear issue, Yi said the Seoul government has to seek an overall solution of inter-Korean problems including the suspension of joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises, economic cooperation with the North and exchanges of civilian personnel.

Kim, on the other hand, said the South needs a strong military in order to insure national security before and after unification, opposing the opposition demand for freezing defense spending.

### Former UPP Representative Joins DLP

*SK2710031893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0225 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—Rep. [Representative] Chong Chang-hyon, a former member of the United People's Party [UPP], joined the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] on Wednesday. Chong was a national constituency lawmaker in the UPP, created by Hyundai Group founder Chong Chu-yong.

Chung's admission into the DLP was arranged by DLP Secretary General Hwang Myong-su and the Reunification Democratic faction, informed sources said. Chong gives the DLP 172 seats in the National Assembly. His elder brother, Chong Chae-sok, was named Transportation Minister on Oct. 18 to replace Yi Kye-ik, who was fired over the Seohae ferry disaster.

### State Bank Chief Predicts Economic Recovery

*SK2710111293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0715 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—Kim Myong-ho, governor of the Bank of Korea, said Wednesday that Korea should improve its industrial structure and enhance its economic efficiency next year, when the economy is expected to recover rapidly.

"Competitiveness of South Korean industry has weakened very much because of rapid growth of other developing countries and the widened technological gap between South Korea and developed countries," Kim said in a speech at Wonkwang University in North Cholla Province.

The pace of Korea's economic recovery will accelerate next year for several reasons, the head of the central bank predicted. External variables for exports will be better next year and facility investment by the automobile and shipbuilding industries is likely to grow as the economic expansion of developed nations is expected to be high, he said.

It is unlikely, however, for the competitiveness of Korean industry to rise at once, even helped by an economic recovery, because of structural vulnerabilities that include high costs and low efficiency, he added.

"What is most important is that we make an effort for solid growth of our economy, by focusing on improving the industrial structure and enhancing economic efficiency with the help of the economic recovery that is expected next year," Kim said.

"The most important way to strengthen industrial competitiveness is to make 'cheaper but better goods.' In order to do this, we should solve problems such as price stabilization, productivity improvement, acceleration of technology development and development of small- and medium-sized industry."

### Steel Exports to PRC, Southeast Asia 'Plummet'

*SK2810091593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0828 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 28 (YONHAP)—Korean iron and steel exports to China and Southeast Asia continued to plummet last month while imports soared, resulting in this year's lowest steel trade surplus, the Korea Iron and Steel Association said Thursday.

In September, iron and steel exports fell 21.6 percent to 476 million U.S. dollars from the same month last year and imports rose 69.8 percent to 404 million dollars. The

72 million-dollar surplus was the smallest this year and 93 million dollars less than the average in January-August.

The steel trade surplus averaged 271 million dollars in the first quarter and 139 million dollars in the second quarter. It was 94 million dollars in July and 91 million dollars in August.

Association officials attributed the drop mainly to the Chinese government's retrenchment policy, which froze imports of South Korean plate and reinforced bar, Korea's main steel exports to the country, and to a slump in exports to Southeast Asia.

In contrast, Korea's imports of scrap iron, alloy steel and half-finished steel goods, whose domestic supply is short of demand, continued to increase, according to the officials.

The drop in the iron and steel exports made Korea's major iron and steel companies, including Pohang Iron & Steel Co., consider a cut in export prices of hot-rolled steel, cold-rolled steel and reinforced steel of 10 U.S. dollars to 20 dollars a ton.

Meanwhile, the iron and steel exports in the first nine months of this year were up 17.4 percent from the same period last year at 4,456 million dollars while imports were off 7.4 percent at 2,969 million dollars. The surplus was 1,487 million dollars.

### 'Containerized Exports' to U.S. Show Decrease

*SK2610072493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0709 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—South Korea, Japan and Taiwan are all experiencing sluggish growth of containerized exports to the United States, while other Asian nations have annual growth rates ranging from 20 percent to 30 percent, the Korea Maritime Institute (KMI) said Tuesday. Korea was worst off, with a drop in containerized exports that averaged 5.6 percent in 1990-1992, compared with increases of 1.7 percent for Japan and 3.4 percent for Taiwan.

China, India, Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries have shifted to containers for shipping exports to America as electric and electronic appliances, textiles and toys make up the bulk of their cargoes instead of the materials that dominated in the late 1980s. Thanks to growing demand for toys, footwear and textiles in the U.S. market, Hong Kong and China saw containerized exports rise 20 percent in 1990-1992.

For Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia, the growth was 30 percent with favorable exports of furniture, television sets and canned goods, while India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka posted 20-percent increases with the popularity of their textile products. In contrast, Korea, Japan and Taiwan lost competitiveness in this period.

Japan's containerized exports to the United States dropped for two straight years from 1990, but recovered this year, and Taiwan recorded minus growth in 1990 and 1992. Korea recorded a decrease for the last three years.

### Auto Exports to Latin America Show Increase

*SK2510023193 Seoul YONHAP in English 0124 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Automobile exports to Latin American countries jumped 123.5 percent in the first nine months of the year, the Korea Automobile Manufacturers Association (KAMA) said on Monday. South Korean automakers sold 65,348 vehicles in the region in January-September, surpassing last year's total of 50,063 for the entire 12 months. Latin American countries took 15.8 percent of Korean automobile exports, up 6 percentage points from a year before.

Exports by Hyundai Motor Co. increased 96.6 percent to 24,582 vehicles, exports by Daewoo Motor Co. skyrocketed 453.9 percent to 21,932 vehicles and exports by Kia Motors Corp. rose 28.1 percent to 14,757 vehicles. Daewoo cars were the best-selling imports in some countries in the region. Daewoo sold 5,439 cars in Chile in the first half, followed by Subaru of Japan in second place with 3,053, Nissan third with 2,884, Toyota fourth with 2,039 and General Motors of the United States fifth with 2,128. Daewoo was also first in Peru with 2,502 cars, followed by Nissan with 1,555 and Toyota with 1,411.

Daewoo ended its partnership with General Motors at the end of 1992 under the terms of the separation Daewoo cannot export its cars to North America or Western Europe. Daewoo concentrates on exports to South America as a stepping stone for advance into the world's biggest automobile market, North America.

### Unemployment Expected To Rise to 3.4 Percent

*SK2610012493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0059 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—Several private economic think tanks Tuesday forecast unemployment of between 3.2 percent and 3.4 percent next year, from 0.4 percentage points to 0.6 percentage points above this year's level and the worst since 1986. Unemployment sank 0.1 percentage points to 2.3 percent in 1991 from a year earlier, rose to 2.4 percent in 1992 and is 2.8 percent this year. The figure is forecast to be over 3 percent in 1994, they said.

The Cheil Economic Research Institute projected unemployment of 3.4 percent without a change in government policy because of the recession, and 3.1 percent with some kind of government economic stimuli. Even with economic growth of 5.6 percent, unemployment will be

3.2 percent in 1994 because just 300,000 people will find jobs, far fewer than the 500,000 of 1990 and 1991, Lucky-Goldstar Economic Research Institute forecast.

In view of the prolonged recession, low investment in labor-intensive light industry and growing automation of heavy and chemical industry, joblessness will be over 3 percent in 1994 and higher the following year, Daewoo Economic Research Institute said.

Samsung and Ssangyong forecast unemployment at 0.2 percentage points to 0.4 percentage points higher in 1994 than this year even with better economic situation because employment growth appears a few years after economic recovery.

The jobless number was 463,000 last year, rose to 560,000 this year, and is expected to be around 650,000 in 1994.

## Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

## Malaysia

### Indochina, Burma Participation in ASEAN Viewed

*BK2310094493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0650 GMT 23 Oct 93*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 23 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan said the participation of Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar [Burma] in ASEAN would depend on how fast political and economic stability can be restored in these countries. It would also depend on the extention which they can change their policies.

ASEAN supported any move to strengthen coperation in the region in the interest of lasting stability, he told reporters here Saturday.

Dismissing claims that the ASEAN membership was exclusive, he said ASEAN wanted to increase its membership from the current six to 10 but it would depend on how fast political and economic stability could be restored in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Myanmar. The ASEAN members—Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines and Thailand—had in common political and economic stability and would continue to cooperate in the spirit of esprit de corps, he added.

Asked whether there was a time frame for the four countries to join ASEAN, he said no time frame had been set.

## Singapore

### Ship Intrusion Issue Discussed With Indonesia

*BK2710121893 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Oct 93 p 25*

[By Warren Fernandez, Brendan Pereira, Ng Wei Joo and Sharon Snodgrass]

[Text] The Singapore Government has taken up with Jakarta authorities an incident in which an Indonesian government vessel intruded into the Republic's territorial waters and refused to hand over four persons fleeing from a Police Coast Guard (PCG) boat.

In a statement yesterday, a spokesman for the Home Affairs Ministry here also described as "factually inaccurate and misleading", some Indonesian press reports on the incident, which alleged the PCG boats had entered Indonesian waters while pursuing illegal immigrants. The ministry said that at 7.38 pm on Oct 14, a PCG boat, PT 10, spotted an unlit motorised sampan with four people on board in Singapore waters. The sampan was then at grid location 0117A, off Airway Bouy, and was heading towards Changi Beach. The PCG boat ordered the sampan to stop, but it ignored the orders and changed course to evade the police craft instead. The PCG boat then gave chase.

At 7.45 pm, the sampan went alongside an Indonesian government vessel, BC6005, at grid location 0017A about 0.7 nautical mile from Airway Bouy, which is 2.3 nautical miles from Singapore's shores and is well within the Republic's territorial waters. The four men abandoned their sampan and boarded the Indonesian vessel. The crew of the Indonesian vessel refused to hand over the four people and insisted that they were in Indonesian waters. Eventually, the Indonesian vessel left the area and headed in the direction of Batam Island. PT 10 and three other PCG boats which had been despatched earlier remained at the scene. The sampan was seized and is now in custody.

The statement added: "The Singapore Government has taken this matter up with the Indonesian Government, with whom there has been good cooperation."

### Trade Board Reports Increased Trade Volume

*BK2710123793 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Oct 93 p 36*

[Text] Singapore's trade growth this year is set to surpass that of the past four years if the current momentum is sustained. Trade Development Board (TDB) statistics released yesterday showed that total trade volume grew by a strong 21.6 percent in the third quarter, on the back of a 19.1-percent increase of non-oil domestic exports.

Over the first nine months this year, total trade volume expanded by 19.3 percent and that of non-oil domestic exports 20.8 percent. This is significantly higher than their rates of growth since 1988.

Last month, Singapore's trade volume rose by 25.5 percent, while that of non-oil domestic exports saw a 18.6 percent increase. In value terms, total trade was up 24.1 percent to $ [Singapore dollars] 23.37 billion, while non-oil domestic exports grew 18 percent to $5.85 billion.

The TDB said there were increased shipments of integrated circuits, disk drives, microcomputers as well as telecommunications equipment. September's oil exports expanded strongly by 40.7 percent in volume terms and 20.9 percent in value terms.

Re-exports rose by 34.1 percent in volume terms. The products in demand included computer parts, videocassette recorders (VCRs) and cigarettes.

The volume of imports, meanwhile, grew by 21.4 percent. The rise was in products such as integrated circuits, disk drives, motor cars and capacitors.

Among the Republic's major markets, the volume of non-oil domestic exports to Malaysia shot up by a massive 147.1 percent last month.

There was high demand for computer parts and peripherals, printed circuit and electronic components for VCRs and radios.

Non-oil domestic exports to the United States, Japan and Hong Kong saw volume increases of 16.6 percent, 44.7 percent and 44 percent respectively.

There was a decline of 10.5 percent in such exports to the European Community. The fall was in desktop computers, measuring instruments and organo-organic compounds.

## Cambodia

### Government To Prevent KR From Traveling Abroad

*BK2810122293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 28 (AFP)—The Cambodian government is backing up its view of the Khmer Rouge as "outlaws" by introducing passports which will stop the guerrillas travelling abroad, foreign minister Prince Norodom Sirivut said Thursday.

Three separate bodies have issued Cambodian passports currently recognized around the world—the Khmer Rouge resistance themselves, the formerly communist Phnom Penh regime, and the Supreme National Council (SNC) which represented the country's sovereignty under U.N. supervision. But in the coming weeks the Cambodian government will ask governments to honor only newly issued royal passports for international travel, and the Khmer Rouge will not have them.

"Soon they won't be able to travel anymore," the foreign minister told AFP on the eve of his re-nomination to the post in the new, permanent government. The National Assembly was due to approve the final cabinet list Friday.

Khmer Rouge nominal leader Khieu Samphan had previously travelled on a Yugoslavian passport, then one created by the resistance, then one issued by the SNC. The government's goal is to bring the Khmer Rouge into line and have them recognize the Cambodian government.

"It is better to bring the tiger in from the jungle to the city, transform the tiger into a kitten, invite it into the Cambodian living room, give it milk...and cut its claws," Prince Sirivut said. "With claws it is dangerous; it scratches."

The "traditional suspicions" about China—longtime supporters of the Khmer Rouge—are over, the minister said. Chinese sources said that the Khmer Rouge officially closed their embassy in Beijing on September 3. But at the same time, the Khmer Rouge ambassador Chan Youran remained in China at the service of King Norodom Sihanouk, and even welcomed the former U.N. peacekeeping chief Yasushi Akashi at Beijing airport on the king's behalf in mid-September, U.N. officials said.

At the same time, Prince Sirivut cautioned Thailand, which the U.N. and Cambodian army have accused of still supporting the Khmer Rouge, that it must choose between "the legal and legitimate royal government of Cambodia and a group of outlaws called the Khmer Rouge."

Thailand has already made great strides in this area, he said, citing recent declarations of support from Thai officials that certain Thai military officials with close links to the Khmer Rouge were being reassigned away from border areas.

"They're in the process of sorting it all out. We don't need to push them any [word indistinct]," Prince Sirivut said.

Cambodia wants to improve relations with Thailand, but "on the basis of mutual respect and territorial integrity," he said. "Nobody dares support the Khmer Rouge now," the minister said. But overall, he said, the press exaggerates the danger posed by the Khmer Rouge.

"In all seriousness, the Khmer Rouge represent a problem of internal security. Nobody is afraid of going to Britain because of the IRA (Irish Republican Army)," the minister said.

As for Cambodia's international relations, priority goes to neighboring Laos, which has been offered access to Cambodia's seaport in exchange for Cambodia's direct access to China. Good relations with China, notably on an economic level, are an absolute necessity, he said.

### Ranariddh Urges Rural Development Promotion

*BK2810062493 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] During the morning recess of the National Assembly's 25 October session, Prince Kromluong Norodom Ranariddh, first prime minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia, at a meeting with national and international reporters, said: We will spend money to buy generators of [word indistinct] megawatts for temporary use. So in the next 6-8 months, we will have enough electricity for Phnom Penh. The prince further said: We will also solve the running water problem, but we do not need to restore the old system; we will install a new one so as to ensure lasting use. Another problem is that our city, which has long been well known, should be turned into the pearl of Asia as before. If our city is clean, it would become the pride of our whole nation.

Prince Kromluong also said: The problem of insecurity, which has become more serious, is not proper for the nation. Besides, neighboring countries that have been involved in foreign investments and are more advanced than us have complained to foreigners about us, urging the latter not to invest in Cambodia due to insecurity. As such, we should stop playing the game which is their trap, pitting us all along against each other. We should decide to become reconciled for the sake of national reconstruction. This is the last chance for the international community to help us.

On the Khmer Rouge issue, the prince said: If we want to eliminate the Khmer Rouge, we should look for a new way, that is, social and economic development. It is inappropriate for us to wait for rain water; we should do whatever we can to make funds, roads, running water, electricity, insecticides, schools, hospitals, and so on available. Rural development is the only method we can use to challenge communism and to get rid of corruption.

### Government To Honor King's Wishes After Death

*BK2610102993 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0352 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh 26 Oct (AKP)—Mr. Son Sann, dean of the representatives to the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia, sent a letter to His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, King of Cambodia, informing him that the assembly and government will execute all his lofty instructions after his death.

In his letter dated 21 October, Samdech Son Sann stressed:

"I am honored to tell you that the Assembly and the royal government will make it their filial duty to execute Your Majesty's lofty instructions and reserve for Her Majesty the Queen all the honors due her, at her gracious pleasure and as long as she would be kind enough to honor us with her presence. I pray to Lord Buddha and all the gods to kindly accord Your Majesty a prompt recovery of your precious health which is necessary for the survival of our country and the protection of your subjects."

This letter was sent following the message dated 20 October and sent from Beijing by His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk in which he hoped that his wife Queen Norodom Monique Sihanouk would be permitted to live the rest of her life in the compound of the Royal Palace in Phnom Penh.

### Foreign Minister Thanks China for Support

*BK2610072093 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0356 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Phnom Penh 26 Oct (AKP)—Prince Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation of the Kingdom of Cambodia, recently received Chinese ambassador Mrs. Xie Yue'e in Phnom Penh.

Their talks dealt with the upcoming visit by a delegation of the royal government to Beijing where it will call on Cambodia's King Norodom Sihanouk, who has just undergone an operation to remove a tumor. The two interlocutors also exchanged views on the regional political situation.

Mrs. Xie Yue'e stressed that China supported the Cambodian king who pursues a policy of independence, sovereignty, unification, and territorial integrity.

The ambassador expressed her joy at seeing the Cambodian people live in peace and national reconciliation, which enables them to engage in the reconstruction of their country.

In his remarks, the head of the Cambodian diplomacy thanked China for giving Cambodia support and aid, especially for showing concern in the medical treatment of His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk.

Prince Norodom Sirivut stressed the foreign policy pursued by the royal government under the leadership of the king. On the Khmer Rouge issue, he affirmed that the king wished for a process of national reconciliation.

### Report on Khmer Rouge 'Harassment Activities'

*BK2710100393 Phnom Penh National Voice of Cambodia Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] From 18 to 24 October, the Army of Democratic Kampuchea [ADK] carried out 24 harassment activities, including six attacks against the Khmer Royal Armed Forces [KRAF], three artillery barrages, five movements of ammunition or troops, two ambushes, three mine detonations, and three robberies.

In Preah Vihear Province on 19 October, for example, the ADK fired 30 82-mm mortar shells at the Choam Khsan district seat, wounding four civilians and burning down a house.

On 17 October they planted mines on a road in the Phnum Boh area, Banteay Srei District, Siem Reap Province, injuring four civilians.

On the same day they planted mines on Route 69 in Banteay Ampil District. One of the ensuing explosions damaged an automobile and wounded three civilians.

On 19 October the ADK launched an attack on KRAF Division 286 in Samraong District, killing four of our soldiers and wounding four others.

Also on 19 October, 130 of their ground troops, backed by artillery fire, launched two attacks on our men who were defending the area 20 km southeast of Angkor Chum District.

### Radio Calls on Government Troops Not To Fight

*BK2510064593 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 24 Oct 93*

["Appeal to ANKI and Other Para Troops"]

[Text] There are reports saying that allies, particularly Australia, the United States, and France, are colluding with the communist Vietnamese and Vietnam's puppets to make preparations to rekindle the war this dry season on the battlefields in western Cambodia. They have hired Vietnam's puppet named Prum Moranak to command ANKI [National Army of Independent Cambodia, loyal to Sihanouk] and other Para [troops of the former Khmer People's National Liberation Front] soldiers.

Whose man is Prum Moranak? Like other puppets of the communist Vietnamese, Prum Moranak is Vietnam's man and he has been built up for 14 years. He is a member of the Vietnamese Communist Party and has been brainwashed many times by the communist Vietnamese in Hanoi and in the former Soviet Union. Now the allies are using money to buy and hire these men, some FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] leaders, and some ANKI troops to serve the policy of destroying the Cambodian people and Democratic Kampuchea. These persons are enjoying foreign money and are wallowing in the pool of blood and pus of our nation and people.

The Cambodian nation and people do know the capacity of these persons. They will judge and try these persons as on previous occasions. In particular, for ANKI and Para compatriot soldiers and compatriot puppet soldiers, who have been freshly rounded up, please flee and keep away from the hearth of war of the communist Vietnamese and allies.

### Editorial Says Resistance Cannot Be Destroyed

*BK2810042193 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Station editorial: "Can the Continuing War Destroy the National Resistance Forces, or Should Joint Efforts Be Made To Find a Political Solution in Accordance With the National Reconciliation Policy of His Majesty the King? Which Is the More Effective and Appropriate Path?"]

[Text] According to a reliable source, the communist Vietnamese and some elements of the unscrupulous alliance on 18 October summoned a group of communist puppet military leaders, including the man called Prum Moranak, to meet in Sisophon. The meeting was to plan offensives against innocent people and seize a number of liberated zones in northwestern Cambodia that the people and national resistance forces have painstakingly liberated from the claw of the communist Vietnamese aggressors and have protected and sustained for years. Why are events turning out like this? Since the other side's army has already declared itself as a national army, why doesn't it meet to plan military operations to throw out the Vietnamese nationals from the thousands and tens of thousands of square kilometers of Cambodia's territorial waters and islands that the communist Vietnamese have annexed? Why does it turn to attacking only its own nation and people?

It is very obvious that, although it has given itself this or that name, the true and fundamental nature of the army is that it is the army that the communist Vietnamese set up and have controlled since 1979. The army directly joined with the communist Vietnamese aggressors for 13 or 14 years to eradicate the Cambodian race and massacre and persecute the Cambodian nation and people. At present, as their interests are the same, the communist Vietnamese and the unscrupulous alliance have forcibly placed some elements of other forces under the command of the Vietnamese-organized army for the purpose of further militarily crushing the national resistance forces, thereby enabling them to continue their political strategy of swallowing Cambodia.

However, can the communist Vietnamese and the unscrupulous alliance achieve anything from the ongoing war in Cambodia? And can they militarily destroy the national resistance forces? In view of these questions, one might recall the bitterly adverse consequences the communist Vietnamese suffered during the 13 years of open war of aggression and occupation of Cambodia. Could the tens of thousands of communist Vietnamese aggressor forces succored by billions of dollars in aid paid annually by the former Soviet Union destroy the national resistance forces? Or were they instead increasingly bogged down? At present, is there anything new that makes the communist Vietnamese and the alliance hope that they will be able to crush the national resistance forces militarily?

The communist Vietnamese and the power they have installed as well as the alliance believe that after the holding of the elections organized by the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], they have legally been endowed with a parliament, a constitution, and a two-headed government that—this is what they believe—can conceal their true nature as arch murderers. And with some aid from left and right, they hope that they are capable of militarily destroying the national resistance forces. Somehow, the Cambodian nation and people, who have endured the Vietnamese war of aggression for 13-14 years, known the true nature and the bad intentions of the communist Vietnamese and the Vietnamese-installed power. Although they are heavily made up by the unscrupulous alliance, the communist Vietnamese and the power are still known as invaders and warmongers and are categorically opposed by the entire nation and people.

The results of the recent elections also show that the Cambodian nation and people neither want to continue the war nor see further bloodshed. The people want national reconciliation, living in peace and stability while totally ending the structure of the Vietnamese-installed power. They want a genuinely national power structure, both military and civilian, from top to bottom. Therefore, if the communist Vietnamese, the alliance, and others still dream of being able to employ the

Vietnamese-organized force to destroy the national resistance forces militarily, they will commit a huge mistake because this action is against the ardent wishes of the nation and people, against the forces of national reconciliation, and against the desire of all countries and peoples in this region.

In sum, if one allows oneself to be induced by the communist Vietnamese and the alliance to follow their path, one will certainly lead the nation toward ultimate disaster, thereby turning Cambodia into a second Kampuchea Kraom of the communist Vietnamese.

The only way to insure the nation's survival is to reach national reconciliation and compromise and unify all national forces under the charisma of His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk. Only by so doing can our nation have sufficient forces to jointly settle all small and big national issues and gradually solve social problems until Cambodia can be rebuilt and defended forever.

## Indonesia

### Daily Views Workers' Reaction to Labor Policy

*BK2610140393 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 9 Oct 93 p 2*

[Editorial: "A New Episode in Labor Disputes"]

[Text] The deteriorating industrial relations between the workers and the management groups had long been felt. As a matter of fact the workers' strike that occurred on Thursday [7 October] opened a new episode in the history of labor disputes in Indonesia. The striking workers are contesting the government's labor policy by filing a petition with the Supreme Court for a judicial review of the Department of Manpower Decree No. 438/1992 and Decree No. 03/1993.

Lately, three workers from a factory manufacturing cigarettes and a worker from a shoe factory in Surabaya had filed petitions with the Supreme Court through their legal representives, the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation (YLBHI), the Social Study and Advocacy Institution (ELSAM), and the Surabaya Legal Aid Institute (LBH). The petition had been filed for a judicial review by the Supreme Court, and was accepted by Herani (SH) [Master of Law], administrative head of the State Order on Industries in Jakarta on Thursday.

In the petition, it was mentioned that the two decrees issued by the Department of Manpower had implicated the government's move to compel workers unions at factories to comply with and to join the All Indonesian Labor Union, SPSI. The two rules ban the formation of independent unions in the two factories in Surabaya.

According to a legal representative, one of the protesters, along with other workers in the shoe factory had founded their own union there. However, the owner of the factory and the local government officials feel that the union was illegal because it had no affiliation with the SPSI.

The three workers from the cigarette factory had been appointed by about 3,500 workers of the factory to demand the government to raise the minimum wage. This is because the majority of the workers at the factory do not consider the SPSI as a union that protects their interests.

Meanwhile, Abdul Hakim G. Nusantara SH, one of the lawyers handling the petition case, said that the examination process of the petition for a judicial review of the two rules will not be held behind closed doors. "By filing the petition for a judicial review of the two decrees regulating the formation of trade unions, the Supreme Court's autonomy will be tested," he added.

There had been a series of unending workers' protests and strikes at the industrial sites of West Java, such as in Bogor, Bekasi, Tangerang and Cimahi, as well as in Malang, East Java province. Based on our observations so far, the workers' protests and strikes were usually launched due to the dissatisfaction over wage issue.

We are equally concerned over the series of workers'strikes taking place in the country. The consequence of the workers' strikes would not bring any profit to the industrialists or the workers themselves. Of course it not easy to solve the problem, and it looks like the principle of the Pancasila industrial relations has not been fully implemented the way it is expected to be. In fact, the best way to solve the industrial disputes is by adopting the principle of the Pancasila industrial relations which would bring mutual benefits to the two sides.

Usually, the workers' protests and strikes took place spontaneously. But the SPSI had given the impression that it was still not capable of taking the leading role to overcome the dispute between the workers and the management group concerned. Several workers groups had launched the strikes or demonstrations at their own initiative to demand for their rights provided under the country's labor laws. The industrialists do not or have not observed these laws.

In reality, the average wage of workers in Indonesia is just about enough for them or is insufficient to cater to their basic needs in life. Because of this, the best way to avoid the industrial dispute is to create a wage system that would enable the workers to lead a decent life.

The other reason for the low wage paid to the workers is probably the industrialist concerned is facing a problem such that he does not have enough money to pay the appropriate amount of wage to the workers. However, we believe that if the industrialist is willing to be open about his problem and discuss it with the trade unions' representatives, an understanding could be reached between the two sides. Once a mutual understanding has been established, the problem of workers' demand for a higher wage could be solved within the spirit of family togetherness. In this way the two sides would avoid adopting a confrontative attitude toward each other.

## Laos

### President Returns From Francophone Summit

*BK2110080793 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 21 Oct 93*

[Text] Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and a high-level delegation returned to Vientiane yesterday afternoon after attending the fifth Francophone summit. The meeting was held in Port Louis, capital of Mauritius, from 16 to 18 October. The LPDR delegation attended the meeting as a full member country of the Francophone community.

An official welcoming ceremony for President Nouhak Phoumsavan and his delegation was held at the National Assembly hall in Vientiane. Attending the ceremony were Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon and National Assembly Chairman Saman Vi-gnaket, along with vice chairmen of the National Assembly, ministers, deputy ministers, and high-ranking cadres from various sectors. Xavier Rose, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of France, and Boun-gnang Volachit, governor of Vientiane municipality, were also present.

### Meeting With Mauritius Premier Noted

*BK2210093393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[Text] During his stay in Mauritius to attend the fifth Francophone summit meeting, which was held from 16 to 18 October, Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], met with Anerood Jugnauth, ministers, and the prime minister of the Republic of Mauritius. At that meeting, President Nouhak Phoumsavan sincerely thanked Anerood Jugnauth, as well as to the government and people of Mauritius, for the warm welcome accorded the Lao delegation.

The Mauritian prime minister highly appraised the participation and positive activities of our Lao delegation at the summit. He said the Lao delegation's participation and activities further strengthened the solidarity and friendship among Francophone countries.

The two sides also exchanged views on various issues discussed the summit meeting. They also held consultations on the promotion and expansion of the relations and cooperation between the LPDR and the Republic of Mauritius.

### SRV Supreme People's Delegation Visits

*BK2810051493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Our country's Supreme People's Organ of Control delegation, led by Chief Procurator Comrade Le Thanh Dao, arrived in Vientiane on 24 October on a friendship visit to Laos. The delegation held talks with the Lao Supreme People's Organ of Control delegation. Both sides exchanged information on the activities of each country's people's organs of control and discussed their experiences in this area and measures to strengthen the cooperative ties between the two countries' people's organs of control.

The delegation visited a number of historic relics and economic and cultural establishments in Vientiane and toured Louangphrabang Province.

### Shortage of Rice Predicted in Saravane Province

*BK2510051293 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 23 Oct 93*

[Text] In early October, Bouathong Boutsanavong, party secretary of Toumlan District, Saravane Province, told local reporters that 80 percent of the total 2,328 hectares of transplanted rice crops for main rice farming throughout the district have been damaged by drought this year. It is expected that the residents of this district will be short of rice for six to nine months next year. The district party secretary gave details on the expected yield of rice crops, saying only 1.6 metric tons of rice crops per hectare, or some 80 kg per person on average, can be harvested. As a result of the drought, rice transplanting cannot be undertaken in a number of rice fields because transplanted areas have been severely affected by natural calamities.

To resolve problems likely to arise, the district administration will encourage the people to raise domestic animals and plant short-term subsidiary crops in areas where conditions permit.

## Philippines

### Ramos Confirms Proposed Meeting With Clinton

*BK2710120693 Quezon City GMA-7 Radio-Television Arts Network in Tagalog 0930 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Excerpt] President Fidel Ramos confirmed a while ago that he will have a one-on-one meeting with U.S. President Bill Clinton on 22 November at the White House. Ramos made this statement after meeting with John Negroponte, the new U.S. ambassador to the Philippines. He is scheduled to leave for the United States on 8 November and will visit Chicago, New York, Atlanta, Seattle, Houston, San Francisco, and Seattle for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] Conference.

The issue of Ramos' one-on-one meeting with the U.S. President has been the center of speculation the past few days. Until Ramos confirmed it, his close advisers were still not sure whether Ramos would have the meeting.

[Begin recording in English] [Unidentified correspondent] Aside from the Seattle meeting, will he meet with Clinton anywhere else?

[Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo] I am, let's say, 99 percent sure that the president will have the famous one-on-one meeting separate and distinct from Seattle.

[Unidentified correspondent] Do we have any dates on when the president will leave for the United States?

[Romulo] We are working on a date as Ambassador Negroponte said, and I am confident that that date will be consistent with the date when the president will be in Seattle. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Peace Panel Thanks Indonesian President Suharto

*BK2810063393 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Congressman Eduardo Ermita, vice-chairman of the government panel in the ongoing peace talks with the Moro National Liberation Front rebels, has expressed appreciation to the Indonesian Government for its support for the peace talks. Ermita said Indonesian President Suharto is confident that the talks held in the Hotel Indonesia will be successful.

According to Ermita, the Indonesian Government is taking appropriate security measures to ensure the safety of the delegates to the peace talks, including observers of the Islamic Conference Organization.

### NDF Expels Breakaway Members from Leadership

*BK2210090593 Manila PNA in English 0309 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[Text] Bacolod City, 22 Oct. (OANA-PNA)—The National Democratic Front (NDF) had expelled from both its fold and Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) ranking rebels who declared their regional committees autonomous from the CPP central committee leadership.

NDF Secretary General (Frank) Fernandez announced the expulsion in a statement faxed to Manila media outfits here. Fernandez, a former priest, said the expelled leaders include Arturo (Tabara), secretary of the disbanded Visayas Commission, whom he called a "gangster mastermind" and his fellow ex-priests Vicente (Pelobello), Allan Abadesco and Ben Escrupulo. Also expelled were Patricio Libre and Darwin Castro (or Rufino Geanga), secretary of the Negros Island regional party committee (NIRPC).

Fernandez said the break-away leaders have been ousted from the party and no longer represent the NDF. Fernandez referred to the breakaways as "contras". He said the breakaway rebel factions have fallen for the "peace talks" of the government to make rebels surrender.

### NDF Assails Breakaway Groups, Ramos Government

*BK2510104893 Quezon City MALAYA in English 22 Oct 93 p 2*

[By Shalom Mapagu]

[Text] The National Democratic Front [NDF] yesterday assailed breakaway groups and the Ramos government for allegedly intensifying their efforts to break up the armed revolutionary movement in the country.

The statement signed by NDF Secretary General Frank Fernandez, came after the Philippine National Police declared that the breakaway initiated by three regional committees of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] spelled the underground movement's imminent end.

Fernandez lashed at the breakaway groups for "waging an all-out psywar campaign to win followers for their ideological, political and organizational bankruptcies."

Fernandez urged the rest of the revolutionary forces as well as the Filipino people to reject the "anti-Party and anti-NDF gang."

"With their counter-revolutionary activities, they serve well the interests of U.S. imperialism and the local ruling class," he said. The Manila-Rizal committee of the CPP was the first to announce its autonomy from the CPP under Jose Maria Sison and Luis Jalandoni.

### Communists Express Willingness To Resume Talks

*BK2810075993 Quezon City Radio Filipinas in English 0230 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Exploratory talks between the government and communist rebels may resume next month after both parties clarified the use of the constitutional process as the basic framework for discussions, according to the government's peace adviser. Oscar Santos, presidential adviser on the peace process, said NDF [National Democratic Front] leaders have understood the government's position to use the rule of law as the basis for any peace negotiations.

The clarifications stemmed from the opinion of Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon that the government would not impose on the NDF existing constitutional processes as a precondition for the peace talks to take place. Drilon earlier said the communist rebels could propose amendments to the Constitution in order to institute reforms.

The NDF refused to hold further peace talks with the government in protest over what was earlier understood as the imposition of the Constitution as basis for the discussions. The issue was the latest stumbling block in the renewed attempts to forge peace with the communist rebels after the differences over the venue for the talks had been settled. Both parties have agreed to hold the second round of exploratory talks in Vietnam.

According to Santos, former Ambassador Howard Dee, the chief negotiator for the government side, informed him that the NDF has accepted Drilon's legal opinion on the issue using the constitutional process as basis for discussion. He said the NDF hierarchy understood that while the government would firmly stand within the framework of the Constitution, it would not foreclose the NDF from introducing reforms or amendments in the constitutional provisions. The NDF needed a confirmation that the government is not imposing anything for the talks and they got this from Secretary Drilon's legal opinion, Santos said to explain the NDF's change of heart.

### Leftist Peasants Movement Splits Into 2 Factions

*BK2210071093 Quezon City PTV-4 Television Network in Tagalog 0500 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[Text] The leftist Peasants Movement of the Philippines has finally split into two factions owing to the refusal of Jaime Tadeo, the movement's national chairman, to leave office. Earlier, Tadeo was removed from office.

His decision to remain despite the movement's action has prompted the officers of the movement, led by Rafael Mariano, to separate from Tadeo's faction.

Tadeo was impeached from office because he abused authority, squandered movement's funds, and sabotaged the movement.

## Thailand

### Commerce Officials View APEC, GATT

*BK2810031093 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Oct 93 p A5*

[Text] If the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) agrees at its meeting in Seattle next month to create a free trade area, it will amount to killing the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, Thai Commerce Ministry officials said.

"Trade liberalization is the primary function of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. But if Apec, a smaller umbrella, is to attempt a similar task—one month before the Gatt is supposed to conclude—it will be tantamount to killing the multilateral trade talks," said one official.

The officials, who spoke on the condition they not be named, were reacting to a proposal of the Eminent Persons Group of Apec and moves by the United States toward setting up a free trade area or a trading bloc within the members of the Asia-Pacific region to counter the European Community.

Thai officials have been worried over the turn-about of Apec, which, under US and Australian lobbying, is changing its role from a loosely consultative economic forum into a trading bloc.

The members of Apec are the six nations that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the United States, Canada, China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

Officials said that by liberalizing trade beyond Gatt, Apec will be creating new rules of international trade as an alternative framework to Gatt, which in principle should be the supreme body governing global trade.

"If Apec is to embark on trade liberalization beyond Gatt, it will complicate trade agreements. For instance, if Thailand is to provide intellectual property rights protection beyond Gatt to the Apec members, what can we say to the other non-Apec members regarding intellectual property rights?" one official asked.

President Bill Clinton may push hard for Apec to become a trading bloc because the prospect for passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) between the United States Canada and Mexico is uncertain.

Canada, under new prime minister-designate Jean Cretein, indicated that it might review the Nafta because more than half the public object to the the pact. Chretein said he would push for Nafta to be superceded by a final conclusion of the Uruguay Round.

Failing to launch Nafta by next year will be a major blow to the international trade policy of the Clinton Administration. An alternative could very well be the creation of a trading bloc in the larger Asia-Pacific region.

### Commerce Minister To Attend ASEAN Session

*BK2810011293 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 93 p 28*

[Text] Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon will represent Thailand at a meeting of ASEAN ministers for the first time since his appointment a year ago when he attends the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation next month.

Mr Uthai will be the second-ranked minister in the Thai delegation whose leader will be Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, until Prime Minister Chuan Likphai attends an informal meeting of APEC leaders on the last two days of the meeting. Mr Uthai will represent Thailand as an economic minister when ASEAN's economic and foreign ministers hold a joint session at the APEC conference.

A Commerce Ministry source said Business Economics Department Director General Kroekkrai Chiraphaet would join the trip on behalf of Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatcahra Itsarasena, who this week was suspended by Mr Uthai. Mr Uthai's chief adviser, Phongsak

Raktaphongphaisan, and Business Economics Department Deputy Director-General Aphiradi Tantraphon, will also attend.

Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak and officials from the Office of International Economic Cooperation, who usually handle international trade issues, will be absent from the ministerial meeting. Mr Suphachai may join the APEC leaders' meeting.

## Editorial on Phatchara Transfer, GATT

*BK2810014093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 93 p 4*

[Editorial: "The Terrible Cost of a 'Jobs for the Boys' Political System"]

[Text] Prime Minister Chuan Likphai and Commerce Minister Uthai Phimchaichon say the suspension of Commerce Permanent Secretary Phatchara Itsrasena is not a disaster for Thailand's international trade negotiating team.

There is some truth in what they say, but for the most part they are wrong; and at issue here is not only trade policy. Ultimately, the Phatchara-Uthai row leads to questions about whether the political system is producing ministers who are sufficiently qualified to handle their portfolios.

In Mr Chuan's case, it is not clear whether he really believes what he says. He may have been forced to look on the bright side.

Earlier, when bad feeling broke out between Mr Uthai and Mr Phatchara, the prime minister could veto any attempt to remove Mr Phatchara. Now, the situation is different. With the Social Action Party now out of the Government, Mr Chuan's coalition is only 13 votes above the half-way mark. He cannot risk offending the eight members of Mr Uthai's Solidarity Party.

Mr Uthai probably believes what he says, but he certainly was under no obligation, legal or moral, to suspend Mr Phatchara. He has never rated Mr Phatchara highly, nor has he ever attached much importance to the Uruguay Round of world trade talks. On both of these points he is wrong.

Mr Phatchara's faults are well-documented and it is well-known that he is not always an easy man to work with. But he has unquestioned honesty and ability. Where Mr Uthai went wrong was in his choice of advisers.

The two officials closest to him were chosen not because of their abilities but because of personal connections. One is a former classmate; the other is a former commerce official in his constituency, Chon Buri.

Neither has any particularly outstanding qualities, but both have played key roles in what looks increasingly like a vendetta against Mr Phatchara. Other ministry officials of considerably greater ability—particularly some members of factions also rivalling Mr Phatchara—have played little or no part in the Uthai-Phatchara clashes.

Mr Uthai has let himself be drawn into petty internal disputes. Instead, he should have distanced himself from the factionalism and exploited the strengths of all his officials. His predecessor, Amaret Sila-on did just that, and his choice of aides was impeccable. The contrast could not be starker.

Policy-wise, Mr Uthai claims credit for having removed Thailand from the threat of US trade sanctions. His contribution is a fact even if it is debatable whether he was the only minister involved, as he claims, in a significant way. But Mr Uthai's approach has always been too simple. He did what was required to get Thailand off the so-called priority foreign country list. But he failed to challenge the validity of the Section 301 clauses of US trade law that Washington cited, and he failed to recognise that Section 301 is intricately bound up in the more complicated Uruguay Round.

One of the objectives of many countries negotiating in the round—including Thailand—is to make sure that Section 301 is outlawed under a new international agreement. Another is to ensure that the agreement represents a balance in Thailand's favour.

Depriving Thailand of the captain of its negotiating team at this juncture shows just how little Mr Uthai understands about the situation and just how unwilling he is to make the effort to learn.

Mr Chuan is right when he says Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak can handle international trade negotiations, but even that comment is an oblique criticism of the commerce minister's failings in this field and in any case no minister can operate effectively without a strong team of officials.

It is also true that there are other officials in the Commerce Ministry who are well-versed in international trade and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Two experts are the new Business Economics director-general Kroekkrai Chiraphaet and inspector-general Karun Kittisathaphon, who is also head of Dr Suphachai's international economic policy coordinating office in Government House. But both lack the clout of 59-year-old Mr Phatchara, and at this late stage of the Uruguay Round, with less than two months before its scheduled conclusion, they have no time to establish themselves. Of the leading candidates to replace Mr Phatchara, Oranut Osathanon and Charae Chutharatkhun, both are able but neither have much experience in GATT affairs.

The timing is important not only because of the approaching December 15 deadline. For months the talks have almost exclusively involved the leading industrial economies. It is precisely at this point that smaller countries such as Thailand are becoming involved again.

In other words, Mr Uthai has not simply removed the principal strategist from Thailand's negotiating team. He has left Thai negotiators without an effective senior official to represent the country in the Trade Negotiations Committee, the plenary Uruguay Round body that GATT director general Peter Sutherland is using increasingly at this stage of the talks. In world forums such as GATT, seniority counts. This is a really bad time to deprive Thailand of its main negotiating voice.

The contrast with Mr Amaret highlights the political dilemma. This country needs elected ministers to ensure public accountability. But it also needs a system that produces the right person for the right job. Mr Uthai has an excellent political track record, but as commerce minister he is becoming a disaster. Apparently he did not really want the job in the first place. It was thrust upon him by the Cabinet-by-quota system. That system badly needs an overhaul.

## Article Views Chuan Role at APEC Meeting

*BK2810033493 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Oct 93 p 6*

[Article by Thanong Khanthong: "Apec's Would-Be Status Sends the Jitters"]

[Text] On Blake Island, off the coast of Washington State, Prime Minister Chuan Likphai will find the place a secluded retreat—so secluded that he alone will hold in his palm securely or insecurely, the destiny of Thailand in the wider world.

As he is to take part in the Nov 20 informal gathering of the leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) on that tiny island, he will draw up Thailand's most important international trade policy since Thailand decided to join the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt) in 1982. Like it or not, the way this consultative economic grouping is evolving indicates that it is being pushed into becoming a trading bloc, so formidable that it will rival the European Community.

The big question Chuan must ask himself is whether Thailand is ready to become part of the Asia-Pacific trading bloc? US President Bill Clinton will play host to this informal gathering of Apec leaders, held for the first time since the informal grouping was launched in 1989 under the Australian initiative. History will be in the making during those rare hours of informal talks where no aides will be present.

Clinton is expected to bring up aggressive proposals to bolster Apec beyond its informal role. How would the other Apec leaders react if Clinton were to say, "Let's create a free trade area within Apec over the next 10 or 15 years," or "Let's liberalize trade and investment among the Apec members beyond what has agreed in the Gatt"?

The Eminent Persons Group of Apec, of which Dr Narongchai Akrasani is a member, has come up with several recommendations for the Apec members to intensify economic integration including the creation of a free trade area and liberalization offers if the outcome of the Uruguay Round appears uncertain by the time of the Apec conference. The deadline for the successful completion of the multilateral trade talks is Dec 15.

US officials have been slyly selling the idea of Apec as a trade negotiating body all the way, upgrading the status of the regional grouping from its current role as a consultative economic forum. The US proposal for an establishment of an Apec Trade and Investment Framework, something that will eventually become a trade negotiating body, is the clearest evidence of that effort. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), however, has already attempted to water down this proposal.

Responding to a question whether some countries in the region fear or even oppose the informal grouping and whether it is moving too quickly toward free trade, Sandra Kristoff, the US director for Asian affairs on the National Security Council Staff, said: "Well, I think you're right. The principle of striving for free trade in the region is one that people will endorse. Whether we can operationalize the commitment to that principle in terms of specific, concrete steps within a specified period of time is, I think, open to debate."

As a liberal country adopting multilateral trading rules, Thailand will have no objection against free trade. Yet the overriding question is at what appropriate pace trade liberalization will serve Thailand's best interest?

Definitely, Thailand will stand to gain most by seeing to it that trade liberalization efforts fall under the Gatt umbrella where all the 116 members play by the same rules.

Thai officials have reacted with great concern over the institutionalization of Apec, which, they fear, might supercede the Gatt or become its alternative. With uncertain prospects of a successful conclusion of the Uruguay Round by Dec 15, there is a danger that Apec will be pushed into becoming a trading bloc at the expense of the Gatt's multilateral trading system.

Under Gatt, Thailand, which has established its own policy platform, can always team up with the other developing members to fight for its cause. Under the trading bloc of Apec, the super powers will call all the shots leaving the smaller countries at the sidelines.

As the leader of a small country Chuan will find that his words carry less weight, if audible at all, than those of the superpower leaders in Apec. He cannot expect his counterparts in the Asean to fully back him either since this six-nation regional grouping has already failed to come up with a common position on Apec.

Asean is split when it comes to Apec. Singapore goes all the way to support Apec because its relatively developed economy has already undergone liberalization. Brunei has more oil revenues than it needs, so it does not need to protect any local industries. The Philippines, after initial suspicion, reversed its position and supports the US version of Apec. Only Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia are in the same boat. Malaysia, who has lost face over the US objection to its East Asia Economic Caucus initiative has gone so far as to declare that it will not attend the Apec leaders' meeting.

Thai officials believe that the US and Australia, with less faith in the Gatt after the gruelling seven-year negotiations, are striving within Apec to create a trading bloc to counter the EC.

The spectre of the world being divided into two opposing trading blocs—the Asia-Pacific trading bloc and the EC single market—cannot be ruled out. During the Cold War, the US fought the Soviet Union, dividing the globe into two camps. With the looming trade war, the US has shifted its target to the EC.

Mickey Kantor, the US Trade Representative, recently outlined the US international trade policy and clearly warned that the US is ready to abandon Europe if Europe continues to block market access of US goods. Wrote Kantor: "The United States will have an active role in Europe for as long as we can see. Our desire in Europe is to have greater access for US goods, not see US business focus on other parts of the globe. If Europe blocks efforts to expand trade, it will be hurting itself most. *US trade will continue to expand with Asia and Latin America, and Europe will be left out.*"

If worse comes to worse, Chuan might have no choice but to go along with the super-powers' proposals. By geographical reality, Thailand is part of the Asia-Pacific region. Yet he can make known Thailand's principles in international trade as follows:

—Apec should not supercede Gatt.
—The Apec members must work their utmost efforts to bring about a successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round by Dec 15.
—The framework of the multilateral trading system should be based on one system—that is, the Gatt.
—Anything that comes out of Apec must be Gatt-consistent.

With these sticking points in mind Chuan should be able to proudly represent Thailand at the Apec Summit. Any of his deeds or commitments will affect the future of Thailand in the long term.

### Dutch Prime Minister Views Economic Ties

*BK2710020793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Oct 93 p 5*

[Text] Monday's talks between Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers and his Thai counterpart, Chuan Likphai, at Government House turned out to be a meeting of minds.

The Thais asked the Dutch to support the elimination of import duties on tapioca, and stressed the need for an urgent conclusion to the Uruguay Round of GATT talks, including the need to base an Uruguay Round deal on agriculture on the US-EC Blair House accord that France is threatening to veto.

Mr Lubbers and his delegation agreed, but pointed out that the negotiation process within the EC is complicated.

In his lunch speech to the Netherlands-Thai Chamber of Commerce yesterday, he even volunteered support for Thailand's concern that controversy between the EC and the United States has made it difficult for smaller countries to have any influence on the talks.

"A broad and balanced agreement needs to be reached which reflects the wishes of all the GATT partners and not just the arrangements made by a small group of influential countries," he told an audience of about 400.

For their part, the Dutch urged Thailand to open up its services markets to more foreign banks and insurance companies, and to grant KLM, the Dutch airline, the right to fly on from Bangkok to Indochina.

The Thai response was favourable. Bank of Thailand Governor Wichit Suphinit said banking would be liberalised as soon as a services agreement is struck in the GATT talks. The Thais were cautious about insurance, but Mr Lubbers was convinced that circumstances would force liberalisation even in this heavily protected sector.

"My guess is that things will go quickly in Thailand," he said afterwards.

"If you want to be really successful, you need to liberalise capital markets."

Encouraging Dutch investment in Thailand, and indeed Thai investment in Holland, is one of his objectives. Mr Lubbers' background is in economics, and as head of a large delegation that included many business executives, he concentrated on trade and investment in his two-day visit to Bangkok. Political issues were left to his foreign minister.

"What struck me as fascinating was the attention of the Prime Minister (Chuan) for differences in income between the city and the countryside," Mr Lubbers said.

Exchanging niceties is easy for two countries whose relations have always been good. In his lunch speech Mr Lubbers did not even sound too concerned when he noted that Holland is "still confronted with a large, structural bilateral trade deficit with Thailand which amounted to more than US$450 million last year.

"Boosting the volume of Dutch exports to Thailand presents us with an exciting challenge," he said, but the solution should not be to cut Thailand's exports to Holland. "On the contrary, I'd like to see them both grow."

But he knew that the real reason for the large deficit is tapioca. Rotterdam takes almost all that Thailand exports, and much of it is shipped up the Rhine or overland into other European countries.

Given the meeting of minds, how does Mr Lubbers assess the prospects of persuading the French and other EC countries to agree to zero tariffs on tapioca and a GATT deal on agriculture? After all, his 11 years as prime minister, makes him and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl the second-longest experience as head of government in the EC, after French President Francois Mitterrand.

"I don't think it is exclusively an internal question in the EC," he said.

Two conditions outside the EC are needed: a "global" agreement that covers the majority of participants and all subjects of the Uruguay Round, so that losers on agriculture such as the French can appreciate gains in other sectors; and a "reasonable" solution to the "peace clause" proposal that would commit GATT members to use GATT's enhanced dispute settlement procedures instead of taking the law into their own hands.

The "peace clause" would, in particular, outlaw the United States' use of its Section 301, a sore point that both the EC and Thailand resent.

"Either you accept the authority of GATT or you don't," he said.

With those conditions improving the atmosphere, then EC members such as Holland could put pressure on the French by persuading French farmers that they are actually efficient enough in agriculture to be able to survive the lowering of subsidies and trade barriers reasonably unscathed.

He does not share the view from outside that the recent "Jumbo Council" meeting of EC foreign and agriculture ministers represented a backward step. True, the council instructed EC external relations commissioner Leon Brittan to discuss the Blair House accord with the Americans. But, Mr Lubbers said, it allowed Mr Brittan to negotiate without forever being interrupted by objections from EC member governments.

Therefore, "the outcome of the Jumbo Council was even-handed."

In short, achieving the December 15 deadline will be difficult but not impossible provided sweeteners are offered for reluctant countries. For example, if the United States were to drop its objection to protectionism in films and music France might find the agricultural accord easier to accept, he said.

At the same time Mr Lubbers is anxious to stress the EC's line that protectionism is not exclusively European. He is critical of the United States and Japan. "Neither of them can be characterised as a free trader." His main complaint against the United States is Section 301.

This is a period of some relief for Mr Lubbers. His government held the EC presidency when the Maastricht Treaty on European integration was concluded in December 1991 and the German courts recently ruled that the treaty is constitutional, clearing the final legal obstacle to ratification by the 12 members.

Mr Lubbers is a strong advocate of regional integration in all spheres. He stresses the need for the second phase of European Monetary Union to come into effect on schedule this New Year with the creation of the monetary institution that should become an EC central bank.

And he shares EC president Jacques Delors' belief that integration should not only be about business—but with a difference.

Jacques Delors wants to see the EC handle social issues as well, a position the British government rejects. Mr Lubbers shares London's belief that social issues are among the local questions that can be handled locally: matters that are "close to citizens" should be tackled "close to citizens".

This in his view is the meaning of "subsidiarity", the obscure term included in Maastricht to assure those who are concerned about loss of national sovereignty.

Therefore, the non-economic aspect of European integration for conservatives like Mr Lubbers is law and order and external security. "People need to feel safe and secure."

His commitment to regionalism allows him to offer a different perspective when asked how Holland should view Thailand in relationship to Indochina. It should not necessarily be, he told the chamber of commerce, a conduit to Indochina.

Rather, the regional attraction would be to see Thailand as part of a region of freer trade. That, he said, is why the ASEAN Free Trade Area is important.

"I think it won't be easy, but very necessary to lower the tariff and non-tariff barriers in this region."

### Discusses Easing Tapioca Tariffs

*BK2710024593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Oct 93 p 26*

[Text] Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers yesterday confirmed that he will continue to press for the removal of the European Community's 6 percent import duty on tapioca.

But he warned that ultimately the decision rests with the Community as a whole and not with the Dutch government.

"I can confirm that we will go on with our pleas not to diminish the possibilities of tapioca in the European Community, but on the contrary in the framework of the GATT, we have to go further and see that this is further liberalised," Mr Lubbers said at a press conference concluding his two-day visit to Thailand.

Thailand is concerned that the reform of the EC's Common Agricultural Policy, with the reduction in support prices for cereals that compete with tapioca as animal feed ingredients, will weaken tapioca's competitiveness.

Holland is the main EC importer of tapioca and has all along supported a more liberal approach.

Mr Lubbers headed a large delegation of business executives and officials. The leading private sector delegate, Rinnoy Kan, chairman of the Netherlands Federation of Industries, said Dutch businessmen want to do more business in Thailand despite the obstacles of Bangkok traffic jams, rising labour costs, and registration, which limits foreign firms.

However, Mr Kan said, the Netherlands views Thailand as the gateway to Indochina, and some Dutch companies are major investors in infrastructure and the financial sector, he said.

During talks with Thai leaders, the Dutch called for liberalisation of banking and insurance, but said they were content to wait for this to happen under a GATT agreement.

### House Committee Assails Saudi Diplomat's Remarks

*BK2810025893 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Oct 93 p A3*

[Text] The House Committee on Foreign Affairs yesterday lashed out at Saudi Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Sa'id Khujah for his criticism of the authorities' handling the jewellery embezzlement case, saying it was improper and a breach of diplomatic protocol.

Spokesman Sutham Seangprathum said the envoy's strong comments had tarnished the image of Thai bureaucrats the Thai people and the country as a whole and could affect bilateral relations.

The committee called for govemment action to prevent a repetition of Khujah's breach of international diplomatic standards.

The committee also decided to invite the Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri and the Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to clarify the matter at its next meeting.

"If we let this case pass undisturbed, it will be a precedent for others to follow," said Sutham.

Last week Khujah appeared on television, slamming the government's poor handling of the matter of the stolen jewellery and police investigators' reports on the case, and has made similar comments in the print media.

"I am not making a threat, but we will not allow those who have in their possession Saudi precious stones to remain unpunished," Khujah told THE NATION.

"Can the Thai government say where the rest of the jewellery is? Even people on the street know the answer. I want to let Thais know that we are not fools."

Reading a statement issued by the committee, Sutham said Khujah's remarks were not in line with diplomatic protocol.

"As a diplomat he has no right to condemn a government, a person or third country publicly through the mass media," he said. Khujah's action was a insult to the bureaucratic community, a well as to the people of the country where he is a guest.

Khujah could not be reached for comment yesterday. His secretary told THE NATION that Khujah had been informed a few days earlier that there would be a reaction from the House Committee.

" To make a further counter-statement would only further fuel the existing tension," said the secretary.

Sutham said it was not the first time Khujah made such a statement in the public.

"He even attacked a party leader who was once a prime minister," he said—an apparent reference to former prime minister Chatchai Chunhawan, who was accused by Khujah of taking the Saudi cases casually.

In 1989 a Thai worker in Riyadh Kriangkrai Techamong, stole jewellery worth several million dollars from a Saudi palace and fled to Thailand. Police arrested him and recovered most of the gems, but a significant proportion of the jewellery returned to Saudi Arabia was rejected as fake.

A police lieutenant-general, six other officers and a civilian have been charged in connection with the theft, but the missing jewellery has yet to be returned.

A defendant-turned-witness in the Saudi jewellery embezzlement case yesterday testified in the Criminal Court that crime buster Pol Lt Gen [Police Lieutenant General] Chalo Koetthet had kept some of the recovered jewellery for himself. Pol Gen [Police General] Wisai Suwansi in a previous hearing had accused Chalo of extorting money from the relatives of convicted jewel thief Kriangkrai Techamong in 1989 in exchange for his decision not to bring charges against them. Chalo was a deputy commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau when he was assigned to head a police team, which included Wisai, to take legal action against Kriangkrai who stole the jewellery from a Saudi palace in 1989.

Wisai told the court that Chalo seized some of the jewellery from Surasak Aneksirikun, who he said had been asked by Kriangkrai to hold it, but Chalo did not hand the recovered items over to police.

### Burma Hesitates Over 'Economic Growth Triangle'

*BK2810012093 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 93 p 7*

[Text] Burma does not appear ready to go along with the plan to develop "the economic growth rectangle" that straddles southern China, Laos, Burma and Thailand, a Transport and Communications Ministry source said yesterday.

The ministry source made the statement after local Burmese authorities rejected an offer by one of the biggest Thai tourist agents in Mae Sai District of Chiang Rai Province to survey highways in the Shan State.

The tourist agency had suggested staging a pioneer group of Thai tourists to survey the Burmese highway linking the tourist towns of Kengtung and Mandalay. This highway would link part of the four-nation economic quadrangle.

The Shan administration rejected the mission citing security concerns. The source said this rejection reflected the fact that Burma was not yet ready to participate in the development of the economic quadrangle.

The plan could be delayed for at least eight months because the Asian Development Bank (ADB) needs that amount of time to study the master plan for developing the Mekong River Basin, including the quadrangle and the development flow from Thailand to Indochina, the source said.

Surveys of all regional land and water transport routes would have to be worked out before concluding the master plan which would involve China, Burma, Cambodia Laos, Vietnam and Thailand, the source said.

### Citizenship Granted to More Vietnamese

*BK2810012693 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 93 p 7*

[Excerpt] Thailand has granted Thai citizenship to nearly half of the grandchildren of Vietnamese who fled to this country during the Second World War, National Security Council [NSC] Deputy Secretary-General Khachatphai Burutphat said yesterday. The 3,900 third-generation Vietnamese have been given Thai citizenship since Thailand changed its policy last year.

The new policy will affect about 42,000 Vietnamese who fled to Thailand in 1945-46 and are now living in 10 provinces, mainly in the Northeast. A smaller number are scattered in the South and central regions. Of these, only about 800 are the original first-generation refugees. Another 26,000 were born in Thailand, as were the estimated 8,000 now being processed for citizenship.

With 3,900 already naturalised in the past year, Mr Khachadpai expressed confidence that processing for this third-generation group would be completed by the end of 1995.

"Within the next two years there will be no more (non-Thai citizens of the Vietnamese third generation)." Mr Khachatphai told the BANGKOK POST.

The second- and first-generation Vietnamese will be given Thai citizenship after processing for their younger offspring is completed, he said.

Thailand previously insisted that the Vietnamese had to be repatriated and the continued presence of the so-called Dien Bien Phu refugees had strained relations between the two countries.

The change of policy was brought about by internal improvements in Thailand notably in the economy—and in the security situation in Indochina, Mr Khachatphai said.

Vietnam's withdrawal of troops from Cambodia and Laos was a significant factor, he affirmed.

The change of policy took place after many rounds of talks between Thai and Vietnamese officials, he said.

The new policy is "a durable solution" to the problem, he said. "We have changed our strategy to let them live in Thailand constructively," he added. [passage omitted]

## Vietnam

### Vo Van Kiet Receives Japanese Entrepreneurs

*BK2710151793 Hanoi VNA in English 1508 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 27—Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet received here this morning a delegation of the All-Japan Consultative Council of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (AJCCSME) led by Mr. Kuniyasu Shinjaburo on a working visit to Vietnam from Oct. 25-30.

The Japanese delegation attended the Vietnam-Japan Seminar on Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in the capital city on Oct. 26 [held] jointly by the Vietnam-Japan Friendship Association and the AJCCSME.

At the seminar, Vietnamese and Japanese participants focussed on necessary informations of the development of medium and small-sized enterprises conforming to the reality in each country.

Speaking to his guests at the reception, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet welcomed the plans of the delegation, in general, and each entrepreneur, in particular, to study the potentials and strength of Vietnam in economic fields, find appropriate partners for investment cooperation and joint venture production in those fields that both countries are interested in.

As those in Japan, small and medium-sized enterprises in Vietnam play an important role in the national economy, the Vietnamese Government leader said. He affirmed that the Vietnamese Government always encourages and creates conditions for small and medium-sized enterprises of the two countries to promote cooperation and mutual assistance not only in capital, technique, technology but also in the exchange of experience in organizing and training personnel, especially in farm produce and foodstuff processing, textile and garment making.

President of the Vietnam-Japan Friendship Association Prof. [Professor] Academician Vo Tuyen Hoang was present at the reception.

### Do Muoi Receives Outgoing Swedish Ambassador

*BK2810075793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] General Secretary Do Muoi on the afternoon of 27 October cordially received His Excellency Mats Olof Aberg, ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden, who paid a farewell visit on him before the completion of his tour of duty in our country.

The Swedish diplomat thanked the Vietnamese leaders and responsible agencies for having created favorable conditions for him to successfully complete his tour of duty. He expressed his joy over the achievements that the Vietnamese people have recorded within the framework of the renovation undertaking. He noted with pleasure that the relations between the two countries have entered a new stage of development and that their bilateral cooperation has constantly been broadened not only in the economic domain but also in the cultural and scientific and technological areas. He was convinced that the friendly and cooperative ties between Sweden and Vietnam will continue to develop a step further in the days ahead.

General Secretary Do Muoi congratulated His Excellency the ambassador on the successful completion of his tour of duty and praised him for his positive contributions to the promotion of the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. The general secretary also took this opportunity to thank the Swedish Government and people for their profound sentiments of solidarity and extremely valuable assistance to Vietnam. He was positive that there is still more room for the two countries to promote bilateral cooperation in many fields, especially in the area of industrial development, where Sweden has many strengths.

General Secretary Do Muoi asked His Excellency Mats Olof Aberg to convey his regards and wishes for good health to the king, queen, prime minister, and other leaders of the Kingdom of Sweden.

### Further on National Assembly Delegation's Tour

#### Delegation Visits Germany

*BK2510112993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Oct 93*

[Text] At the invitation of Professor Rita Suessmuth, speaker of the German Bundestag, a Vietnamese National Assembly delegation led by Chairman Nong Duc Manh paid an official visit to Federal Germany from 19 to 23 October. This was the first official visit to Germany by a high-level Vietnamese National Assembly delegation.

During its stay in Germany, the Vietnamese delegation held talks with Professor Rita Suessmuth; deputies and leaders of the Democratic Socialist Party, Social Democratic Party, and Liberal Democratic Party; and other politicians and members of the German cabinet.

During the talks, both sides stressed the current positive state of bilateral relations and expressed the hope that friendship and cooperation between the two national assemblies, governments, and peoples can be strengthened.

The Vietnamese delegation also visited a number of German cultural and industrial establishments and the Vietnamese Embassy in Bonn. The delegation met with Vietnamese Embassy officials and Vietnamese residents and students in Germany.

On 23 October, the Vietnamese delegation left Berlin for Paris, concluding its successful visit to Federal Germany.

#### Chairman Visits France

*BK2710143793 Hanoi VNA in English 1432 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 27—Vietnam National Assembly [NA] Chairman Nong Duc Manh has arrived in France for a visit as guest of the speaker of the National Assembly of France, Ph. Seguin. Nong Duc Manh stayed in France as the last but one leg of his European trip that also includes Finland, Sweden, Germany and Great Britain.

Chairman Nong Duc Manh held talks yesterday with Speaker Ph. Seguin.

During the talks, the Vietnamese NA leader highlighted the new steps in the development of the cooperative relations between the two countries, peoples and legislatures. He expressed his satisfaction at the bright prospects of the Vietnam-France relations and highly appreciated the efficient assistance France has given to Vietnam. He expressed his belief that the cooperative relations between Vietnam and France will be constantly consolidated and developed.

In reply, the speaker of the French National Assembly praised the achievements of Vietnam in economic development and improvement of people's life over the past years, describing them as contributions to improving international relations. He affirmed that France will continue assisting Vietnam so that the relations between the two countries, peoples and national assemblies will be developed. Speaker Ph. Seguin accepted Chairman Nong Duc Manh's invitation to Vietnam.

Also present at the talks were Hong Bich Son, member of the NA Standing Committee and head of its External Relations Commission, Vo Mao, member of the NA Standing Committee and head of the NA Office, Vietnamese [words indistinct] Ngoc Thai, and others who accompanied the NA chairman to the five European countries.

## Nong Duc Manh Greets Cambodian Assembly Chairman

*BK2710143393 Hanoi VNA in English 1432 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 27—Chairman of the National Assembly Nong Duc Manh has sent congratulations to Mr. Chea Sim on his election as chairman of the National Assembly of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

## Fatherland Front Delegation Visits PRC 11-23 Oct

*BK2610111693 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] A Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee delegation visited China from 11 to 23 October at the invitation of the Chinese People's (?Consultative) Council Standing Committee. During its stay in China, the Vietnamese delegation was received by Li Ruihuan, member of the Chinese Communist Party Political Bureau Standing Committee. The Vietnamese delegation also held working sessions with leaders in Beijing, Guangdong, and Guangzhou and visited a number of economic establishments.

### Further on Delegation's Visit

*OW2810022793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in Mandarin 0830 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[From the "News"]

[Text] Pham Van Kiet, vice chairman and secretary general of the Vietnamese Fatherland Front, led a delegation of the Vietnamese Fatherland Front Central Committee to China from (?11) to 23 October at the invitation of the Standing Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference [CPPCC] National Committee.

During the visit, Li Ruihuan, member of the Standing Committee of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, cordially met with the delegation.

The delegation also met with and exchanged work experiences with leaders of the CPPCC National Committee as well as of CPPCC organizations in Beijing Municipality, Guangdong Province, Guangzhou city, and Dalian city.

The delegation was warmly received by leaders of local party, government, and CPPCC organizations as well as by local people wherever it visited.

## PRC Corporation Opens Representative Office

*BK2810095993 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The large Chinese External Economic and Technological Cooperation General Corporation officially opened a representative office in Hanoi on the afternoon of 26 October. This is the PRC's first trade representative office in Vietnam. Present at the opening ceremony were Zhang Qing, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary in Hanoi; and representatives of the Ministry of Trade and other concerned sectors.

Vietnamese-Chinese economic and trade relations have been developing in recent years. This shows that China is very eager to develop trade with Vietnam. The opening of the first representative office of the Chinese External Economic and Technological Cooperation General Corporation—a powerful corporation in China—marks a new step in the development of economic and trade relations between the two countries.

## Justice Ministry Delegation Visits Thailand

*BK2710052593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] A delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Justice, led by Minister Nguyen Dinh Loc, paid an official visit to Thailand from 18-23 October at the invitation of His Excellency Sawai Phatthano, minister of justice of the Kingdom of Thailand.

The delegation met, exchanged views, and held talks with a delegation of the Thai Ministry of Justice; visited and exchanged experiences with a number of the Thai law training facilities and law firms in Bangkok and in other provinces on the prospects for cooperation between the two countries in the legal and judicial domain.

While in Thailand, the delegation paid a working visit to the representative office of the Asia Fund in Bangkok. The Asia Fund affirmed that it would continue supporting Vietnam in organizing study trips and training for Ministry of Justice officials and for those from various courts of law.

## Australian Transport Delegation Pays Visits

*BK2710071793 Hanoi VNA in English 0702 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 27—A delegation of the Transport Ministry of Queensland, Australia, led by Mr David Hamill, minister for transport and minister assisting the premier on economic and trade development of Queensland, paid a working visit to Vietnam from Oct. 21-26. The Queensland delegation held talks with a delegation of Vietnam's Ministry of Communications and Transport led by Deputy Minister Bui Van Suong. The two sides informed each other of prospects of mutual cooperation in construction and development of transport infrastructure. They discussed measures to promote the assistance of the government as well as companies of the Queensland state to Vietnam's restoration and development of its railway and marine-transport and to help train Vietnamese personnel in this field. The Australian guests were received by Prof. Bui Danh Luu, minister of communications and transports, and Mr Le Van Triet, minister of trade. The guests visited a number of transport establishments in Hanoi, Haiphong, and Ho Chi Minh City.

### Accord Signed To Set Up Commission With Yemen

*BK2510150793 Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct 25—Vietnam and Yemen have signed an agreement on the establishment of the intergovernmental commission for economic, commercial, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation. They also concluded some documents on cooperation in trade, health care and education.

The signing took place during an official visit to Yemen from Oct. 21-23 by a Vietnamese Government delegation led by Vice Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh.

While there, Vice Premier Nguyen Khanh and his party were warmly received by Prime Minister Haydar Abu-Bakr al-'Attas and National Assembly Chairman Abdallah Bin-Husayn al-Ahmar. Vice Premier Khanh expressed his joy to see the Yemeni people striving to overcome difficulties to build a Yemen of peace, prosperity and happiness, and to make active contributions to the strengthening of peace and security in the region.

The Yemeni leaders highly valued the time-honoured ties between the two peoples, and expressed their wish to promote cooperation with Vietnam in all fields in the new world situation.

During the talks between the Vietnamese and Yemeni Government delegations which were headed by Vice Premier Nguyen Khanh and his Yemeni counterpart, Muhammad Sa'id al-'Attar, the two sides agreed to promote cooperation in the economic, trade, cultural, scientific, technological health care and other fields between the two countries.

### New French Aircraft To Aid Regional Routes

*BK2610051493 Hanoi VNA in English 0705 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 26—Vietnam Airlines took delivery yesterday of two of the three Airbus A320's it is wet-leasing from Air France. These two planes will be used immediately on flights between Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Bangkok and Singapore, and other domestic and regional routes. The third one is due to arrive soon.

Air France pilots and cockpit crew will fly the planes while the Vietnamese staff are trained to replace them within the next nine months.

### World Bank Approves $228 Million Loan 26 Oct

*BK2810101393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] According to World Bank officials, the World Bank approved a $228 million loan to Vietnam on 26 October. This is the first World Bank loan to Vietnam since 1978. The bulk of this money—$158 million—will be reserved for repairing Vietnam's national highways. The remainder will be used to renovate the country's elementary schools.

The bank's vice president for East Asia said that this loan reflects the world community's confidence in Vietnam's economic reforms. It also signals the bank's readiness to help Vietnam achieve its development objectives.

### EC Assistance to Repatriated Citizens Reviewed

*BK2610122393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] The Steering Committee of the EC Program recently paid a working visit to Tra Vinh, Kien Giang, and Can Tho Provinces. The visit was made in the framework of the program to resettle Vietnamese nationals repatriated from refugee camps in various countries. One year after the EC launched the program to resettle repatriated Vietnamese, a total of 7,489 persons have been resettled in seven southwestern provinces. They came from Thailand, Malaysia, and Indonesia. The EC has provided a $2.2-million loan to 4,180 repatriated Vietnamese to help them engage in production and stabilize their daily life. The EC has also provided other financial assistance to help boost physical fitness and promote vocational training for the repatriated persons.

### Production in Bach Ho Oil Field Reported

*BK2810092793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] According to a report by the Drilling Liquid and Chemicals for Oil and Natural Gas DMT Company, Well 809 of Rig No. 8 and Well 104 of Rig No. 5—working in the Bach Ho [White Tiger] oil field—have reached a production level of 69 tons of crude oil every 24 hours, an increase of 51 tons. It is worth noting that by combining all available methods, Well 145 of Rig No. 7—a deferred well with no estimated oil reserves—now produces 170 tons of oil every 24 hours.

## International Group Succeeds in Oil Drilling

*BK2810094193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The 27 October issue of the Japanese newspaper (NUANKIDA) reports that a group of international enterprises—including the Australian Oil and Gas Company, France's Total, Japan's (Sumitomo), and Petrovietnam—has successfully drilled in Well No. 1. Daily oil production in this well is estimated at 6,640 barrels. The VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY correspondent in Tokyo, quoted by the newspaper, said that the experimental drilling that began in August confirmed this estimate for Well No. 1. This month, the group will carry out experimental drilling in Well No. 2 and No. 3 to confirm the total oil reserves before deciding on exploitation.

## Leaders Receive Awards From Confederation

*BK2610133193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] In Hanoi on 26 October, the Confederation of Vietnamese Workers [CVW] held a ceremony to confer the For the Cause of Building the Confederation Order on Comrades Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam; Pham Van Dong and Vo Chi Cong, advisers to the party Central Committee; Le Duc Anh, president of the state; Nguyen Thi Binh, vice president of the state; Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Presidium; and many other party and state leaders.

Speaking at the ceremony, Comrade Nguyen Van Tu, member of the party Central Committee and president of the CVW, expressed profound gratitute to the party, state, and government leaders for their special attention given to the CVW and the Vietnamese worker class. He pledged that the CVW will satisfactorily implement party resolutions, sucessfully organize the upcoming Seventh CVW Congress, and strive to renovate the CVW organization and activities, thereby contributing to the cause of national defense and construction and protecting the interests of Vietnamese workers and laborers.

## Vo Van Kiet Receives UN Agency Representatives

*BK2510153593 Hanoi VNA in English 1521 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 25—Prime Minister [P.M.] Vo Van Kiet received at the Government Office in Hanoi on Oct. 25 representatives of the UN agencies in Vietnam on the occasion of the 46th United Nations Day. With the prime minister were cabinet minister and head of the Government Office Le Xuan Trinh, other ministers, and Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan. Speaking at the reception Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet said that over recent years, UN agencies continued to support and assist Vietnam in implementing macroeconomic reforms, and administration and law renewal, improving the capacity of key ministries and offices of the government, working out several overall plans for different sectors and regions, strengthening the capacity of the government in management and control of foreign aid and training managing personnel. He especially praised the UN assistance in agriculture, forestry, fishery and industry as well as in some social areas such as AIDS, nutrition, education, protection and care for mothers and children, development of rural and mountain areas, population and family planning, environmental protection and management or natural resources, reintegration of returnees from refugee camps abroad. He expressed Vietnam's hope for better cooperation between national programmes and international projects and the strategy and development plans of Vietnam so as to increase the effectiveness of that invaluable assistance.

On behalf of the Vietnamese Government and people P.M. Kiet expressed sincere thanks to the UN agencies and their representatives in Hanoi and the coordinator of the UN agencies in Vietnam Mr. Roy Morey himself for their cooperation and assistance to Vietnam.

In his reply, Mr. Morey thanked P.M. Kiet for his high appreciation of the contributions of the UN agencies in Vietnam over the past time. On behalf of UN agencies in Vietnam, he pledged to render full support for Vietnam's efforts in its current renovation process in order to achieve its short- and long-termed objectives.

## Vo Van Kiet Directs Antismuggling Conference

*BK2510095393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 24 Oct 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet recently presided over a meeting in Hanoi to review the antismuggling campaign and discuss measures to step up this work in the days ahead. According to the prime minister, even though corruption and smuggling are related, they constitute two separate issues which call for different problem-solving methods. Therefore, it is necessary to set up a separate permanent antismuggling committee to help the prime minister direct the various sectors and echelons in strengthening their forces and closely coordinate with one another to control, discover, and deal with smuggling cases according to the law, as well as work out appropriate and effective policies to fight smuggling.

It is necessary for the Central Market Management Guiding Committee to coordinate with the Government Cadre Organization Committee and the various sectors to work out urgent policies and measures to consolidate the antismuggling mechanism and submit these policies and measures to the prime minister for approval. The Ministry of Trade and the Market Management Committee at all levels are dutybound to closely coordinate with one another to oversee the activities of antismuggling forces. All sectors concerned should step up state management work as specified under their functions. The Ministry of Trade must regard the fight against illegal imports and other illegal business activities as one of its important and permanent tasks.

From now until the end of October, all ministries and sectors must review the contents of legal documents already issued to discover those provisions which may create loopholes or which are no longer suitable with the actual situations, and henceforth amend, supplement, or replace them, thus exercising close control according to the law and and taking stern actions against those organizations and individuals who take advantage of their power to engage in smuggling activities or give a helping hand to smugglers.

## Assembly Team Inspects Antigraft Activities

*BK2710044793 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] A National Assembly Standing Committee inspection team led by Phung Van Tuu, National Assembly vice chairman, inspected the enforcement of legal measures against corruption and smuggling in Tay Ninh Province from 18-23 October. The team had a working session with the standing members of the provincial people's committee, the people's council, and with relevant sectors.

The team noted that Tay Ninh Province has exerted great effort in firmly maintaining political security at the border as well for inland areas over the past nine months. Its agriculture-based economy and its artisan and handicraft production have continued to flourish. This has enabled the province to balance its budget and make some contributions to the central government. Its anticorruption and antismuggling efforts have also scored certain results. Its judicial system is being consolidated, thus contributing to promoting law enforcement in the locality.

Smuggling activities at the border, however, tend to develop in a more serious way. The province's antismuggling force is not strong enough despite being large. A number of officials have continued to commit acts of corruption and to lend a hand to smugglers. Although the number of smuggling cases discovered over the past nine months were large—24,000 cases, this figure was still far below reality. The province failed to hit at the right smuggler king-pins and bring them to trial.

The team was particularly concerned about the fact that over the past nine months, nearly 1,000 automobiles have been registered as temporary imports with the Customs Sector but these cars have not been re-exported. The team asked the Customs Sector to scrupulously look into this issue.

In its anticorruption struggle, the province failed to bring to trial any major cases while various echelons and sectors also failed to develop the strength of their nonparty members and party members in voluntarily exposing and denouncing those corrupt acts committed by their cadres so as to contribute to purifying their internal ranks. Some organs with guilty cadres were still bent on subjecting these cadres to internal disciplinary measures. Illegal arrests and the detention of people beyond the time permitted by various law enforcement organs, especially those at the village and district levels, continued to exist in an overwhelming fashion. Over 1,000 such cases were reported over the past nine months. The entire province now has 2,000 civil court sentences still awaiting enforcement.

The team asked the provincial leadership to continue to perfect its anticorruption and antismuggling mechanism and to establish clear-cut regulations for the delineation of duties among its combined units if the anticorruption and antismuggling struggle is to achieve better results.

Law enforcement sectors should develop their supervisory role, struggle to purify their internal ranks, be more decisive against the corrupt and the smugglers, repel the scourge of negativism within the state apparatus, and rebuild confidence among the masses.

## Vo Van Kiet Meeting on Provincial Flood Aid

*BK2410051893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Oct 93*

[Text] Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet held a meeting on 16 October with a number of cabinet ministries and sectors at the central level to discuss assistance for the central region provinces like Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, Khanh Hoa, Binh Thuan, Dac Lac, and Gia Lai. The assistance is to help the provinces overcome losses due to serious floods, which occurred early this month.

The prime minister urged the cabinet ministries and the sectors concerned to coordinate their activities with the localities to help local people restore their normal lives. First priority should be given to people who directly suffered losses in heavily affected areas, and all other urgent tasks should be settled before the lunar new year in order to stabilize production and daily life.

The ministries of finance; labor, war invalids, and social welfare; public health; and education and training; as well as the national reserve department, together with local authorities, will work out measures to provide urgent relief assistance. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry will have to assist the people to restore production according to a normal schedule for planting. The division of responsibility for capital provision will be set as follows: the localities are responsible for 70 percent of the capital for saplings from their own sources or with bank loans; the state, through the national reserve department, will bridge the gap of 30 percent. Capital for fertilizer will be obtained through bank loans.

The Ministry of Communications and Transportation will help the localities concerned rebuild in earliest time possible the bridges, culverts, and road sections that were damaged, so as to ensure through traffic on public roads. The Ministry of Water Conservancy will help restore the damaged water conservancy projects, with priority given to domestic and production use water supply facilities.

### Tran Duc Luong Visits Flood Victims 21 Oct

*BK2310150593 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 23 Oct 93*

[Text] On 21 October, Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong visited Binh Thuan Province and inspected flood relief activities there.

The deputy prime minister heard a briefing given by leading officials of Binh Thuan Province on developments of a recent flash flood and on efforts to overcome the flash flood aftermath.

The deputy prime minister visited Thuan Ninh hamlet of Ham Thuan Bac district where the local people were reported to have been hit by a surprise flash flood that swept away all of their assets.

He also visited the provincial hospital whose instruments and equipment were heavily damaged by the flash flood that submerged the hospital under 2-meter deep water.

The deputy prime minister informed the province of the prime minister's decision to derive 1 billion dong from the central budget to help the province.

Various ministries and central-level sectors have also donated 1.4 billion dong to the province, of which 600 million dong were given by the Ministry of Water Conservancy for the repair of various irrigation works. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Public Health has supplied the provincial hospital with a new x-ray machine, 50 kinds of medicine, and many medical instruments worth 450 million dong. The banking sector will provide the provincial agricultural bank with a fund of between 700 million and 1 billion dong so it can offer loans to peasants to buy rice seeds, insecticide, and fertilzier for restoration of production.

The deputy prime minister hailed the province for having demonstrated its spirit of mutual assistance in the time of need, saying that mutual assistance has basically helped to prevent hunger and epidemics and to gradually bring the people's life back to normal.

### Further on View of Flood Damage

*BK2610151193 Hanoi VNA in English 1437 GMT 26 Oct 93*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 26—A government delegation led by Vice Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong on Oct. 23-24 inspected Phu Yen, the province hardest hit recently by 5-day torrential rains.

Of the five provinces in the central coast hit by flash floods in early this month, Phu Yen suffered the most. Tens of thousands of hectares of ripe rice, vegetables and orchards were completely waterlogged, ninety percent of roads and houses in the province were under water, the road traffic was halted with some sections of Highway 1A flooded and damaged. The Tuy Hoa Electric Factory was under water and was forced to stop operation.

On the behalf of the government, Mr. Luong decided to provide three-month relief food to more than 54,000 flood victims. In addition, the government will help the province to restore its agricultural production.

Priority is given to the repair of the Dong Cam irrigation works to provide water for nearly 20,000 hectares of rice field. The government will also give financial assistance to restore and repair hospitals, schools, roads and railways and some other irrigation works.

### Deputy Prime Minister Tours Drought-Hit Areas

*BK2810051393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] A government delegation led by Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong arrived in Quang Nam-Danang Province on 27 October to study and supervise work on helping the local people to overcome the consequences of the recent drought. Accompanying the deputy prime minister were deputy ministers of finance; labor, war invalids and social welfare.

Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong visited several villages and peasant families in Que Son District to study conditions. The prolonged drought in Quang Nam-Danang has caused serious losses to crops in many areas with damage estimated at 57 billion dong and more than 173,000 persons facing hunger.

Quang Nam-Danang was granted with more than 1 billion dong from the state budget to buy food, medicine, and seeds for distribution to people in the drought-stricken areas in Que Son, Tien Phuoc, and Hiep Duc districts. The province has also launched a movement to motivate cadres and people in other localities to provide help and assistance to the drought victims.

On behalf of the government, Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong expressed sympathy to Quang Nam-Danang and other central provinces for the serious losses caused by the drought. He instructed echelons of party committees and the administration to pay close attention to resolving the hunger situation while providing appropriate help to the local people, especially families entitled to social allowances. He pledged that he will file a full report on difficulties faced by Quang Nam-Danang to the prime minister as well as proposals made by the province to the state. He urged the province to make full use of the more than 1 billion dong granted by the state to help relieve hunger in Quang Nam- Danang. He also hoped the province's party committee and people would quickly overcome the current acute difficulties.

### 'Wicked' Ambitions of Exiled Dissident Assailed

*BK2710055993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 25 Oct 93*

[Article by Bui Quang carried in the 24 October issue of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN: "The True Colors of QUE ME Magazine in Exile"]

[Text] Among publications widely circulated in the overseas Vietnamese community, QUE ME [Motherland] Magazine in France is one of a very few reactionary papers that is peremptorily anticommunist. And it appeared years ago, in late 1975. For many years, QUE ME has been advertised by its founders as a cultural and [words indistinct] establishment.

Besides France, QUE ME is also published in the U.S. and Canada. Most of its articles are written in an acrid and extremely anticommunist manner under the cause of human rights protection and fighting for liberty and democracy in Vietnam. They carry out psychological warfare through propaganda and incite Vietnamese people to oppose their government. These have been the main objects of the magazine for many years. In this area, QUE ME plays the role of forum of the so-called Committee for the Protection of Human Rights for Vietnamese People [CPHRVP], led by Vo Van Ai.

In April 1985, QUE ME and the CPHRVP sent the International Committee for Human Rights a 500-page document in an attempt to instigate prosecution of the Hanoi Communist Government for its violations of human rights in the 10 years from 1975-1985. Their attempts to provoke the UN and international organizations by putting pressure on and opposing us on the human rights issue failed. The international conferences held in Bangkok, Thailand and Vienna, Austria disappointed them.

When the East Europe and USSR collapsed, the extremist elements of the An Quang Buddhist Group, led by Thich Huyen Quang, publicly carried out antigovernment activities and demanded the restoration of the An Quang religious sect. From outside, since 15 May 1992, QUE ME and the CPHRVP have initiated a movement demanding the release of five Buddhist leaders. QUE ME, seizing its chance, published the will of the late Venerable Thich Don Hau together with Huyen Quang's explanations. In one of its commentaries, QUE ME writes: The Vietnamese communists have shown their true face, the Vietnam Unified Buddhist Church is moving ahead with its anticommunist drive. Venerable Thich Don Hau died, leaving a will to transfer his power to Thich Huyen Quang.

However, everybody now knows that the will was fake because the people who once displayed their joy while announcing the will and assigning themselves important positions within the Buddhist church, had to admit that they authored it. QUE ME used to extravagantly commend the vivacious and venturesome actions of ephemerids who were nurtured on the illusion of returning home, gathering forces, and carrying their intention of vengeance like Vo Dai Ton, Hoang Co Minh, and Tran Quang Don.

The founder of QUE ME Magazine is Vo Van Ai. He was born in 1935 in Thua Thien but he grew up and received his education in Saigon. From 1950-55, he studied medicine in Germany, and later in France. But political ambitions led his drifting life in another direction, causing him to commit immoral acts many times.

In early 1964, Vo Van Ai met Mr. Thich Nhat Hanh in order to obtain the position of general secretary of the Overseas Vietnamese Buddhist Association, which was founded by Mr. Thich Nhat Hanh. More than ten years later, in 1975, Vo Van Ai divested Thich Nhat Hanh of a printing house and newspaper to form a Vietnamese cultural center in France and to publish QUE ME Magazine. From a subordinate position, he became the leader of an exiled reactionary organization. In 1977, with the setting up of the CPHRVP, Vo Van Ai started to use this exiled reactionary organization and QUE ME magazine for his personal ambitions. The campaign he instigated called Stirring the Flame Back Home, failed. That very flame has burned the advancement path of a man full of ambitions and illusions.

Recently, Vo Van Ai has become closely associated with exiled Buddhist organizations in the U.S., Canada, and Europe such as the Overseas Committee for the Protection of Buddhism and Human Rights in Vietnam led by Thich Ho Giac, and the Committee for Huyen Quang's Protection led by Thich Van Ly. They have falsely accused Vietnam of violating human rights and freedom of religion and have organized hunger strikes in front of UN and EC headquarters and in some countries to demand other governments to pressure Vietnam to restore the An Quang Buddhist Group and dissolve the Communist Party of Vietnam and to incite national extremists to oppose the Vietnamese Government. During the Hue unrest on 24 May, despite the fact that he was a junior to several high-level Buddhist monks in Vietnam, when has was informed of the incident Vo Van Ai actively directed activities from afar to disrupt security and social order.

Public opinion holds that Vo Van Ai's political investment is just a trick for his economic advantages. An overseas Vietnamese on his home visit told us that most of the exiled organizations are formed to achieve this goal. Initially, when they set up the organization, they loudly advertise their organization's platform and paint a brilliant future for people who still illusorily dream of the restoration of the Republic of Vietnam to call for financial support, sometimes even by extortion, under the banner of performing sacred obligations to volunteer vanguard groups to liberate the homeland and patriots.

Since late 1970, Vo Van Ai has used his home address to receive donations for Vietnamese migrants. In 1979, French newspapers, including the New Observer Papers, accused Vo Van Ai of embezzling 155 million francs from the donation. Recently, according to Western resources, Vo Van Ai again used political tricks for money.

The true color of QUE ME Magazine is quite clear. Hiding behind the banner of fighting for human rights in Vietnam, Vo Van Ai has taken part in most organizations and associated with Lao and Cambodian exiled reactionaries to loudly accuse Indochinese countries of human rights violations and oppressing freedom of religion. QUE ME Magazine and the CPHRVP are the two instruments that Vo Van Ai has used to deceit world opinion of his wicked political ambitions and personal economic goals.

## More Preparations for Mid-Term Party Conference

### Ho Chi Minh City Holds Meeting

*BK2810023893 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Oct 93*

[Text] The Ho Chi Minh City party organization's Executive Committee held an enlarged 9th conference recently to discuss and contribute ideas to the party draft political report to be presented at the upcoming Mid-Term National Party Congress.

Discussing the socioeconomic situation, the conference noted that the city has made great efforts in implementing the 1993 socioeconomic tasks set by resolutions of the city party organization as well as the 10-point development program of the government during the past nine months.

The conference stressed that the city's economic growth has not developed firmly and consistently while publications carrying decadent culture are still prevalent. The campaign to suppress smuggling and corruption attained a low result; efforts to oppose waste and promote thrift were not effective; and order on streets and hygiene at public parks were not up to par. As a result, measures should be taken to urgently overcome these shortcomings.

### Bac Thai Committee Meets

*BK2810045293 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 22 Oct 93*

[Text] The Bac Thai party committee held an enlarged conference recently to discuss the party Central Committee's draft political report for the Mid-Term National Party Conference to be convened in early 1994.

Delegates to the conference expressed identical views of the draft political report by the party Central Committee. The conference focused discussion on the implementation of the Seventh National Party Congress' resolutions and appraised the party's achievements in the economic, cultural, social, national defense, security, and foreign affairs domains. The delegates also contributed many viewpoints on achievements scored by our party during the past few years in implementing the renovation undertaking and in applying the open door policy. They appealed to the party and state to strive to improve education and training for the younger generation, strengthen development programs for the mountain regions, firmly maintain social order and discipline, and seriously enforce state law, and so forth.

The delegates also contributed many valuable ideas aimed at improving our political system, strengthening the party building task, building the local administration, and enhancing the quality of our party members.

During their discussion, the delegates also appraised the implementation of the Seventh National Party Congress' resolutions by Bac Thai Province, especially in the socioeconomic, national defense, and security domains.

The conference elected an eight-member delegation to the upcoming Mid-Term National Party Conference.

### Yen Bai Prepares for Conference

*BK2810045493 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Yen Bai Province party committee's executive body convened a two-day enlarged conference from 26-27 October to discuss and contribute suggestions to the draft political repor to be presented to the mid-term national party conference. The delegates took into account our country's achievements over the past two and half years on the economic, political, and social fronts. They also analyzed and pointed out shortcomings and weaknesses and worked out problem-solving methods to boost socioeconomic development, especially in the mountain regions, including Yen Bai Province.

On this occasion, the Yen Bai Province party committee reviewed the implementation of the socioeconomic development program following the redelineation of the province's administrative boundaries three years ago. The committee also set forth the tasks for the fourth quarter of 1993 and the 1994-95 two-year period.

The participants elected members of the Yen Bai Province party committee delegation to the mid-term national party conference. The delegation consists of seven comrades.

### Phu Yen Holds Conference

*BK2810094993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Oct 93*

[Text] The Phu Yen party committee recently held a conference of key cadres to discuss and contribute ideas to the party Central Committee's draft political report, which will be presented at the upcoming mid-term national party conference.

Delegates to the conference contributed more than 80 ideas to the draft political report. Many of them suggested that the central government objectively appraise progress made in the various aspects of social life and pay close attention to resolving the unemployment problem, opposing social vices, and suppressing corruption and objectivism.

The delegates also expressed their consensus in evaluating achievements in the economic and political security domains that have greatly contributed to extricating the country from the current socioeconomic crisis.

## Dong Nai Province Admits 425 New Party Members

*BK2810095693 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 28 Oct 93*

[Text] Over the last nine months, Dong Nai Province has admitted 425 new party members, surpassing the 1992 figure by 126 percent. Of those who have been admitted, 94 are women, 190 are members of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, 390 are under 40 years of age, and 87 have a college education.

Almost all of the new party members have performed well in every field of endeavor and have gained the trust of the masses.